

Yard issues drawings of bomb couple

Scotland Yard issued an artist's impressions of a young woman and a man, thought to be connected with the three bomb blasts in London this month. Police believe they are part of the Provisional IRA. The girl is described as having blonde or light coloured hair and a "very good figure".

Sub captain stands fast

The captain of the Soviet submarine *Novorossiysk* near a naval base in the Swedish south coast, has refused to leave for questioning until ordered to do so by his commanders in the Soviet Union, despite an apparent earlier agreement to go ashore.

Rush to buy C and W shares

A rush for the Cable & Wireless £22m share offer yesterday is believed to have been at least five times oversubscribed, attracting more than £1,000m from the public.

McEnroe fined for rudeness

John McEnroe, the Wimbledon tennis champion, was fined £750 for rudeness to a supervisor who failed to call an opponent's service out in a tournament in Tokyo.

Doctor attacks pressure groups

Sir Douglas Black, president of the Royal College of Physicians, has attacked the medical profession in the Dowds syndrome baby trial at Leicester, attacking both Edw. and Life for "destroying the confidence of the medical profession".

Tom Jackson to retire next year

Mr Tom Jackson is to retire next July as general secretary of the Union of Communication Workers. He has held the post for 15 years and said yesterday he thought it time he and the union had a change.

Uganda invites Asians to return

President Milton Obote of Uganda said his government was preparing to compensate the Asians expelled by President Amin in 1972. Alternatively, they were welcome to return and take back their business and other confiscated property.

Tax case victory for disabled

Thousands of disabled people who paid tax on their mobility allowances before April 1979, are likely to qualify for rebates after a High Court ruling against the Special Tax Commissioners.

Petrol likely to cost 3p more

Petrol will probably cost an extra three or four pence a gallon in Britain as a result of Thursday's agreement by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries for a unified oil price structure with a \$24 benchmark.

Namibia progress

The first phase of the Namibian independence process could be completed by the end of the year, Western negotiators said at the end of their talks on the constitutional draft with the internal political parties.

Leader, page 7
Letters: On Antarctica, from Mr James Dawson; on Namibia, from Mr Julian Amery, MP; on art works, from Mr M. E. Cooke, and Professor Kenneth Kirkwood.

Leading articles: Terrorism; India cricket tour; loans on offer in Brent.

Features, page 6
The retirement of Canon Collins; the rise of the urban fox; Norway goes Tory; Louis Heren says farewell to The Times.

Obituary, page 8
Mr Bernard Guy.

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Government intervenes

Last-ditch bid to avert strike at BL

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The combined weight of the Government and the Independent Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) will be brought to bear on union leaders and BL management today in a final attempt to avert the catastrophic consequences of the strike due to begin in the car firm's plants at midnight.

In an apparent reversal of his previous position, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, is to intervene directly by meeting leaders of the unions to press home to them the Cabinet's backing for Sir Michael Edwards, chairman of BL and his board's insistence that the 3.5 per cent plus improved bonus pay offer is all that is available.

The unions will then go to the Westminster offices of Acas, where Mr Pat. Lowry, chairman of the service and former industrial relations director of BL, has assembled a top level team of conciliators with the aim of bringing the two sides together.

BL management is holding its own internal talks at the Acas offices, but the Government move before talking to conciliation officers. Last night one straw in the wind was a movement among white-collar workers to accept the pay offer. But there was little optimism among union leaders. Mr Kenneth Curre, chief negotiator of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said: "We shall attend the Acas change the prospect of strike."

Mr Grenville Hawley, national automotive group secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said: "We shall attend the Acas meeting because we are always willing to talk. But I hope there will be meaningful discussions."

He will be accompanied by Mr Alex Jackson, acting general secretary of the TGWU, who has taken a hard line in the pre-strike negotiations.

The invitation to fresh talks at the conciliation service went out from Mr Lowry to both sides as Sir Michael was meeting Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Opposition, at his own request to discuss the company's problem of bringing systematic political influence to bear on the unions. The BL chairman said afterwards: "He was courteous. He listened very patiently when I explained the company's problem."

"I have explained to him that we did not have the cash and he understands our problem there. Our offer is extremely reasonable. The wage level is similar to those enjoyed by Ford workers and Ford is

three at Saarlouis, West Germany.

Mr Paul Roos, the company's director of industrial relations, rejected the unions' claim for a 20 per cent increase, arguing: "Anything less than this in these negotiations will have to be paid for by reducing costs and improving efficiency."

"Although we have succeeded to date in avoiding the large-scale redundancies that employees of other manufacturers and component suppliers have had to face over the past 18 months this does not mean that our business is or will remain viable."

Ford Motors listed five points on productivity and flexibility.

Continued on back page, col 7



Sir Michael Edwards leaving the House of Commons after talks with Mr Foot.

Warning by Shore of party crisis

By Philip Webster

The bitter anger of Labour's centre-right over the crisis into which they believe the hard left has plunged the party was last night boiling over.

Mr Peter Shore, the shadow Chancellor and joint leader of Labour's Solidarity campaign, speaking in Rotherham, cited the Croxall, North West, and St Pancras, North, GLC by-election results, and the Gallup poll on Thursday showing a decline in popular support for Labour.

He said: "We would be blind and deaf if we did not recognize that the party faces its gravest crisis since the 1930s, or that the SDP alliance with the Liberals faces us with a challenge that is now truly formidable."

By a potent and deadly mixture of genuine disappointment, over-arching personal ambition, a totally ineffective national executive committee and through organized subversion and infiltration, the party had inflicted hideous wounds on itself, he declared.

And in a reference to Mr Michael Foot's decision to back Mr Wedgwood Benn and Mr Eric Heffer for the chairmanship of two key NEC committees, Mr Shore acerbically remarked: "With characteristic generosity Michael Foot has proffered the olive branch to those within the NEC who have played a major role in bringing us to our present predicament."

Signalling the determination of Solidarity to fight the left on their own ground in the constituencies, Mr Shore declared: "No longer can we allow organized infiltration and organized conspiracy."

It was up to the new NEC to respond without reserve or hesitation. "If we fail now to end the wretched chapter in our affairs that began in May, 1979, we shall betray generations of men and women who created the party, our fellow countrymen who need an effective and strong Labour government, and the future of democratic socialism."

Mr Lyons, who was found not guilty on the one charge of murder he faced, was told by the judge: "I ought to send you to prison for life, but I'm not going to. I'm going to take into account that you have been in prison awaiting trial for 325 days, and that you are not as young as you used to be, although you are not as old as I am."

He said he understood that Mr Lyons had learnt his lesson and was not going to "mess about with pills and plastic bags any more."

Explaining that a suspended sentence meant he would "cop it" if he got into any more trouble in the next two years, the judge said: "Keep to the young girls, like Miss Jacobs."

This was a reference to Miss Joanna Jacobs daughter of David Jacobs, the broadcaster, who once invited Mr Lyons to tea and found him a "nice interesting old man". Mr Lyons replied from the dock: "I prefer the older ones."

unanimous verdicts brought in after 12 hours of deliberation, the jury found Mr Reed, aged 34, of Sandford Walk, New Cross, London, guilty of two charges of aiding and abetting suicide and one of conspiracy. They found Mr Lyons, aged 70, of Fairhazel Gardens, West Hampstead, guilty of five charges of aiding and abetting suicide and one of conspiracy.

The case had been damaging for the society, Miss Stokes said, but its campaign for a change in the law would continue.

Implications of case page 3

Jail sentences at end of euthanasia trial

By Frances Gibb

Nicholas Reed, general secretary of EXIT, the voluntary euthanasia society, and Mark Lyons, the bogus "Dr Arthur" were convicted of helping people to kill themselves by unanimous verdicts at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Sentencing Mr Reed to two and a half years imprisonment, one of the heaviest sentences imposed for aiding suicide, Mr Justice Neil Lawson said that he regarded Mr Reed's case as far more serious than that of Mr Lyons.

"Not only was he deliberately flouting the law, but using the society, the object of which was to get the law changed, as a cover to jump the gun and make it unnecessary to change the law," the judge said.

Mr Reed shouted defiantly as he was led down to the cells: "That shows the idiocy of the present law."

Mr Lyons, who had been in prison for 325 days, was released on a two year prison sentence, suspended for two years, with an admonition from the judge: "No more meddling with pills and plastic bags."

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Implications of case page 3

Win for British women in world bridge cup

From Harold Franklin, New York, Oct 30

The British ladies bridge team, having won the Venice Cup, this is the first time the trophy has passed out of the hands of the United States since it became an official world championship.

In the qualifying rounds, the United States headed the pool and were the most impressive team, but the British ladies showed a fine capacity to recover quickly from their frequent reverses.

Warsaw threat to ban strikes

From Dossa Trevisan, Warsaw, Oct 30

General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish Communist Party leader and Prime Minister, announced today that the Government would press Parliament to approve a Bill suspending the right to strike if an anti-strike resolution was ignored.

The move came after the party Central Committee had called for legislation temporarily banning strikes and a one-hour national strike. Before pressing on with the Bill, General Jaruzelski said, the authorities wanted to wait to see if a resolution by the Sejm (parliament) would effect the union, whose leaders last night appealed to members to stop striking. If the resolution went unheeded, the Government would act urgently to get the Bill passed.

"The interests of the Socialist state, the peaceful existence of our nation, must and will be protected," the General said. Obviously, the Government, under pressure from many sympathizers, has decided to wait, as it is clear that the Solidarity presidium has reacted to appeals for moderation. Last night it described the situation as critical and called on members to end the strikes. But on the threat of strike legislation it said: "No one can deprive us of the right to strike, nor shall we permit it."

The Solidarity presidium will submit to the national commission, which meets on Tuesday, a proposal which would be a kind of self-imposed limit on the right to strike. It envisages disciplinary measures against "anyone who engages in activities which weaken the union."

Clearly it sees the present uncontrollable strikes as doing damage in its appeal to the right to strike. It envisages disciplinary measures against "anyone who engages in activities which weaken the union."

The presidium is also believed to have written to General Jaruzelski, calling on the Government to meet the legitimate demands of the strikers.

In parliament today the general accused Solidarity of continuing to rebuff all attempts to reach a reasonable understanding.

He said the Government intended to carry out far-reaching reforms. It wanted to set up a council of national agreement, open to all parties, unions and institutions. But to persevere with reforms, law and order had to be restored.

Cabinet changes: General Jaruzelski also announced six ministerial changes. The biggest involved dismissing Mr Stanislaw Mach, a Deputy Prime Minister and his replacement by Mr Edward Kowalczyk, the head of the Communist allied Democratic Party (Reuter reports).

Chicago: Mr Lech Walesa, Solidarity leader, had cancelled a scheduled visit to the United States and Canada next month because of the situation in Poland, the Polish-American Congress here said.

England can book passage to India

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi, Oct 30

The England cricket tour of India is on. The Indian cricket authorities said at a hastily summoned press conference here tonight that difficulties created by the inclusion in the party of Geoff Boycott and Geoff Cook had been resolved.

The Boycott and Cook issue had threatened the three-month tour. The Indian Government had apparently objected to their having played in South Africa. Although that objection had never been confirmed nor denied, the English authorities made it clear that they would not drop these players.

The Indian Government was said to be satisfied with clarification from the Test and County Cricket Board in England.

No objection to Boycott and Cook had been raised until October 15 when it was reported that the political affairs committee of the Cabinet had taken a different view. The Indian Cricket Board of Control reported this to the English authorities. With the tour due to start on November 6, the matter had to be resolved quickly.

The Indian Government was in a dilemma. Cricket is the country's greatest sporting passion and cancellation of the tour, rubbing salt in the wound, would have been highly unpopular.

But India was anxious not to damage its standing as an enemy of apartheid or to harm its relations with African countries.

Mr S. K. Wankhede, president of the Indian Board of Control, and Mr A. W. Kamadkar, the secretary, said tonight that the tour would go on with all the players originally selected.

They said that the TCCB, in giving "satisfactory clarification" stated that it did not permit tours of South Africa. The TCCB had told them that if they played in international or representative matches in South Africa they would not be eligible to play for England. The TCCB also told its Indian counterpart that Boycott and Cook had expressed opposition to apartheid.

Although officials at Lord's had last night still not heard officially from the Indian board, they have been assured by the Indian High Commission in London that the tour is on, the Press Association reports.

Mr Neil Macfarlane, the Minister for Sport, said he was delighted. "This is great news for all cricket lovers. It is a decision that can only be for the good of the game in all the countries that it is played."

Mr Raman Subba Row, manager of the England party, said: "We have hoped against hope that this would be the answer. It is a great day for cricket because the consequences otherwise would, I feel, have been very serious for cricket, and perhaps for sport, throughout the world."

Leading article, page 7
John Woodcock, page 22

Share in our success

COMMODITY SHARE FUND RECORD			
PERIODS TO 1st OCTOBER 1981	UNIT OFFER PRICE	UNIT PRICE	FTSE 100 SHARE INDEX
2 yrs	+ 36.8%	+ 9.3%	
3 yrs	+ 71.6%	+ 22.0%	
5 yrs	+ 137.3%	+ 106.3%	
10 yrs	+ 287.3%	+ 53.6%	
15 yrs	+ 424.4%	+ 199.1%	

We believe commodity prices must rise soon and that commodity companies should be among the first to benefit from the forecast recovery from recession. The reasons are:

- * Increased demand will lead to higher commodity prices.
- * Current low stocks will need to be replenished, increasing demand further.
- * There is little scope for increasing production in the short term.
- * Any new investment will take years to expand capacity.

Our current strategy is to increase holdings in those countries nearly self-sufficient in energy and rich in raw materials, with a consequent strong currency. This should further boost the Fund's performance.

To purchase units in Save & Prosper Commodity Share Fund complete and return the coupon below, together with your cheque. On 28th October 1981 the offer price of units was 142.6p, giving an estimated gross starting yield of 3.25% p.a.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

GENERAL INFORMATION
Fund objective: To provide a portfolio of shares in commodity producing and processing companies, which will benefit from the recovery from recession. The fund will invest in shares in companies which produce or process raw materials, which are essential for the production of goods and services. The fund will invest in shares in companies which produce or process raw materials, which are essential for the production of goods and services. The fund will invest in shares in companies which produce or process raw materials, which are essential for the production of goods and services.

Why not share in our success today?
The Save & Prosper Securities Limited, 4 Great St. Helena, London EC3P 3EP. Tel 01-564 8899. Reg. in England No. 128723. Reg. office as above.

I wish to invest in the Save & Prosper Commodity Share Fund by a lump sum of £100 (or £50) and I agree to receive further units if the fund's value falls below £100 (or £50).		I wish to invest in the Save & Prosper Commodity Share Fund by a regular monthly payment of £10 (or £5) and I agree to receive further units if the fund's value falls below £100 (or £50).	
Name (in full) _____		Address _____	
Postcode _____		Signature _____	
Date _____		Existing A/C No (if any) _____	

SAVE & PROSPER GROUP

By Ian Bradley and Philip Webster

Nationality operative un

By John Witherow

Those communities, while d

By Our Political Reporter

Before admitting administering the drug to his wife, Mr. I-

law not
until 1983

Michael Sullivan

From Tony Samstag, Manningtree

Higher taxes scorned by Brittan

By Our Political Reporter

'And in a message aimed at critics inside and outside the cabinet who have been calling for increased capital spending, Mr John Bruce-Gardyne, Minister of State at the Treasury, said it was nonsense to argue that capital spending by the state must constitute productive investment.

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

"Clerical workers at my own headquarters will have to be pressed into service. I shall also be asking branch secretaries to find volunteers to help.

By Craig Seton

The man seen acting suspiciously in South Croxted Road is described as aged between 35 and 40, five feet, nine inches tall, with black, straight hair, wearing a three-quarter length coat. He was

By Richard Ford

Mr. Heseltine has made clear during his period at the Environment Department that he wants more architectural competitions for government buildings and projects.

By the Staff of "Nature"

FIREMEN PUT £36m ON RATES

By David Walker

By David Walker

Ria Sec 28; Marlin 28; O
Plum B 7; C; Canoe; S
Marion Pda 6.00; Cypress 6.00
Candier Der 0.20; Dubal Pl
Grand Mkt 6.00; France Fr
Mangy DM 2.20; Greece, In
and G 3; Ann R 1; K
DO: Utah Republic 30; Hall 1
mon LI 0.40; Kuwait 22;
mon L1 & 20; Luxembourg
Alra Cay 76; Malta 90; Mon
Norway Kr 60; Oman 60

Paul Vickers, aged 47, the London police officer who had name and address unknown

The court was told that the Vickers asked to see Det Supt Joseph Bulch and told him: "I have spent some of the most successful hours I have had recently. I do not really deserve to be treated like this."

Mr Bulch said Mr Vickers alleged he told Miss Collison he had administered CNU, and explained to the police that he thought his wife might have had a tumour, which could be treated with CNU. He chose it

because Miss Collison had held over him and continued to make demands for further prescriptions.

When he eventually gave her the drug he did not know what it was.

ÄNNA FÖRD WEDS

Captain Roy Morant is collecting memorabilia on a visit to Britain for the trust's exhibition hall and library in Canberra.

Johnson case

When he eventually gave him the drug he did not tell what it was.

At the close of the prosecution case the jury was sent home while the court was occupied with legal submissions.

By Michael Ba
of the 1st Cir.

CORRECTION

CORRECTION

councillor Neville Goldrein, leader of the Conservative minority on Merseyside County Council, said yesterday that, contrary to our report, he had not allowed himself to go forward for selection as a prospective candidate in the forthcoming Crosby by-election.

Leading article, page 7

Extremist groups 'destroying trust of doctors'

From Arthur Osman, Leicester

Sir Douglas Black, president of the Royal College of Physicians, yesterday attacked organisations such as Life and EXIT from the witness box at Leicester Crown Court.

He was giving evidence for the defence at the trial of Dr Leonard Arthur, accused of attempting to murder a baby, John Pearson, who died three days after his birth. Sir Douglas accused the two organisations of helping to destroy the confidence of doctors and nurses.

The chairman of Life reported Dr Arthur to the police and his prosecution followed. The consultant paediatrician, aged 55, who has six children, has denied the attempted murder of the three-day-old Down's syndrome baby at Derby City Hospital in July last year, after the parents had rejected him. The charge was reduced from murder earlier this week after the jury had heard 10 days of evidence.

Sir Douglas, who has been president since 1977, is also consultant editor to the *Journal of Medical Ethics*. He was asked by Mr George Carman, QC, leading for the defence, where the parents had rejected him. The charge was reduced from murder earlier this week after the jury had heard 10 days of evidence.

He said: "I feel quite emotional about this and would like to express an adverse opinion from the point of view of my profession on the activities of pressure groups such as Life and EXIT, and I can give grounds for that."

"I think they are attempting to apply simplistic, rigid rules to situations which do not admit for the proper application of such rules and of course, this has several end results."

He said he was not casting any aspersions on the motivation of people in Life or EXIT. "One has to be pragmatic and consider the consequences. Among those consequences was that doctors and parents counselling together might be deprived of solutions which would be compassionate."

He continued: "I understand it, and this applies particularly to Life, and not so far as I know to EXIT, encouragement is given to information

systems within hospitals and this cannot be but destructive for the confidence of the medical and nursing professions."

The application of such rigid rules leaves between them no room whatsoever for professional discretion. Professional discretion is not an arbitrary matter and it is not exercised by members of the profession in their own interest but is exercised in the interests of patients.

"I think that is where the paediatrician has an essential role to discover with the parents what seems to be the best thing for the future of the child and the family."

Mr Justice Farquharson remarked that one could, of course, understand that rigid rules of practice such as might be enforced by any lobby group would inhibit the practice of medicine in various ways.

He said there must be some limit at some point. He was inclined to make a distinction between errors of judgment and criminality, which was the particular thing defined by law.

Mr Douglas was also asked what guidelines were available to a paediatrician faced with a severely handicapped infant. He said that guidelines were possible only where variables could be competently assessed.

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EXIT verdict is blow to euthanasia campaign

By Frances Gibb

The ambitions of an over-zealous, failed academic who exploited his public post with EXIT, the voluntary euthanasia society, to flout the law and help people to kill themselves led yesterday to one of the heaviest sentences imposed for the crime of aiding and abetting suicide.

Nicholas Reed, the Oxford classicist who became the general secretary of EXIT, was sentenced to two and a half years' imprisonment for using a bogus doctor aged 70 as an "instrument of death", putting him in touch with the suicidal and ill.

But Mark Lyons, the self-styled "spiritual healer" who claimed to have been a Samaritan, received the traditional penalty for euthanasia of a suspended sentence.

The impact of the case goes far wider than the two defendants. Despite the Crown's assurances that the trial had nothing to do with EXIT's views on euthanasia and that no one doubted it to be a genuine society supported by many people, the case will have dealt a heavy blow to a previously respected campaign to make euthanasia legal and to the society at the spearhead of that campaign.

The case was unprecedented in legal history. In the past the law has looked kindly on instances of "mercy-killing", where no evil motive was involved, a guilty verdict has led to a conditional discharge or probation. But each of those was a single episode carried out within the privacy of a family; not, as here, an organized service carried out by a stranger who came in answer to a distress call.

The case was also one of the most bizarre. As Mr John Mortimer, QC, put it, to say that "his clients, Lyons, an eccentric would perhaps be the understatement of the year."

Most doctors were deceived. As the details unfolded, it emerged that Nicholas Reed, in knowing defiance of the law and at risk of 14 years' imprisonment, had put would-be suicides who telephoned the EXIT office in touch with a "doctor" who came in answer to a distress call.

Lyons, under various aliases — Dr Arthur, Victor, Dr Arthur Head — would then visit them dressed in his woolly hat and white coat, and help them to "go home" with the aid of his suicide kit.

The whole secretive operation, which deceived most of the doctors certifying death, came to light only by chance last year. A post-mortem examination after the death in December, 1979, of Mrs Henry Crystal, a sufferer for many

years from multiple sclerosis, revealed she had died from poisoning by a barbiturate-based drug, and alcohol.

About that time a team from Thames Television had been gathering material on euthanasia and had already interviewed a relative of a person whom Lyons had helped to die and Lyons himself. Four days before the programme was due to be broadcast they heard of the suspicious suicide in the case of Mrs Crystal and attended the inquest.

There the link was made. Lyons was identified from the team's photographs by two women at the inquest. They were from a building society and had been at Mrs Crystal's house to write out cheques the day she died and were there when Lyons arrived. The programme material, unscreened, was handed over to the police.

Ironically, it was Reed's own obsession for publicity which led to the discovery. He had sent the television team to interview the relative of the first woman assisted by Lyons.

When the police arrested Lyons as his bedchamber in west Hampstead, north London, they found "literally thousands" of pills in his room, they described it as a "pharmacy" of drugs, including 13 kinds available only on prescription, one a controlled narcotic.

They also found the suicide kit, one in a plastic carrier bag, the other in a hooded, containing drugs, thick glass bands and plastic gloves, a pair of thin rubber gloves and a quarter bottle of brandy.

But most crucial of all to the investigation, they found his diaries, several exercise books written in close script, which recorded meticulously his dealings since 1969 down to the telephone call, including the time he "hung up". They were, he told the police, for his eventual autobiography.

The two made a striking contrast. Lyons was a tall, scruffy man with a long grey beard and one eye (the other is artificial), sitting dressed in a muffled and old coat beside the respectable-looking Reed, a thin, middle-aged man with a neatly combed hair and a complete with EXIT badge.

Lyons rambled, reminisced and joked. In a colourful two-day statement from the dock, which failed even to deal with the charges for three hours, he told his life history. There were moments of high comedy: on one occasion, exasperated with his questioning, the judge urged him to come to the point. "I'll help you all I can, sir," Lyons, a start performer, replied, "even with a plastic bag."

Reed, a Labour councillor with the London Borough of Lewisham who served on his local Age Concern committee, spoke articulately, with care and a confidence verging on the cocksure. "I did my MA in one year instead of the usual two," he told the judge.

But the two had one thing in common, frustrated ambition coupled with a desire for recognition. After Oxford Reed taught classics for two years, earning enough to support himself through an MA course. He then embarked on a doctorate but never finished it and settled for an M Phil.

His learned articles seemed to fall on deaf ears and by 1977 he realised he would not make it as an academic. But Reed was also politically ambitious and when the post of assistant secretary of EXIT came up that year, it provided an outlet for his energies as a daimon.

A member of EXIT, then the Voluntary Euthanasia Society, since 1972, Reed had already made his mark in a voluntary capacity: he was soon an executive committee member, then honorary president (1974) and less than a year after becoming assistant secretary, was general secretary.

Twelve Lyons had always laboured a desire to be a doctor and when he first turned up at EXIT offering his help he claimed to be first a doctor of medicine, later a doctor of philosophy.

"All my life," he told the court, "I wanted to be a doctor because I saw my mother suffering so much and whenever I went they said: 'Sorry, your learning days are over, you're blind in one eye. Moorfields



Mark Lyons (left) and Nicholas Reed, who aided suicides

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His learned articles seemed to fall on deaf ears and by 1977 he realised he would not make it as an academic. But Reed was also politically ambitious and when the post of assistant secretary of EXIT came up that year, it provided an outlet for his energies as a daimon.

A member of EXIT, then the Voluntary Euthanasia Society, since 1972, Reed had already made his mark in a voluntary capacity: he was soon an executive committee member, then honorary president (1974) and less than a year after becoming assistant secretary, was general secretary.

Twelve Lyons had always laboured a desire to be a doctor and when he first turned up at EXIT offering his help he claimed to be first a doctor of medicine, later a doctor of philosophy.

"All my life," he told the court, "I wanted to be a doctor because I saw my mother suffering so much and whenever I went they said: 'Sorry, your learning days are over, you're blind in one eye. Moorfields

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idea of a booklet telling people how to end their lives was born, and with it the society changed direction from being a "suicide club" to a "euthanasia society".

From then on EXIT was in the public eye and faced the full force of the media. In expectation of the booklet membership swelled from 2,000 to its present 12,000 and almost overnight the society's income rose from about £5,000 in 1979 to almost £60,000.

It was at that time, according to Lyons, that he approached Reed with the idea of helping people "not to botch it", and although one of the suicides in the case occurred late in 1978, the bulk were around the end of 1979. "I told Nick, if anybody needs help, why you get a distress call, you put them in touch with me. He said 'OK'."

As one observer put it: "Everyone who phoned in at that time wanted the booklet. And because there was no booklet Mark Lyons took its place."

Reed had then transformed a rather gentle, passive character into a charming, media-conscious pressure group. He published newsletters and commissioned opinion polls showing 69 per cent of the general public in favour of euthanasia. But it was the booklet more than anything that gave EXIT its new image.

From the start Reed was bent on publication. His methods were described by some of the old guard members who opposed the booklet and by some of the original executive committee as "utterly ruthless and opportunistic."

A behind-the-scenes battle ensued between Reed and the committee. In a series of skilful manoeuvres, Reed ensured that at the next annual general meeting, in October, 1980, almost the entire committee, which by then was against publication on the basis of legal advice, was replaced and a new committee elected.

The controversial booklet, *A Guide to Self-Deliverance*, finally appeared last June. By then it had already appeared in Scotland, where the law permitted publication and where the EXIT membership had formed a separate society.

It had sold more than 6,000 copies at 25 a time, and was backed by such people as Arthur Koestler, who wrote the forward, and Lord Beaumont of Whitley, the Liberal peer, who took on the post of chairman of the executive committee (he has since resigned) to see the booklet through.

But it also provoked a chorus of criticism, some from EXIT members themselves, such as Sir Paul Davis, a former City Remembrancer; Lord Soper, the lead in Methodist and Catholic Kennedy, the broadcaster.

A dismal and pathetic life. At the trial, in the defendants' favour were the tragic cases involved: sufferers from cancer, multiple sclerosis, spinal osteoarthritis. Moving statements from their relatives made clear their longing to die, told that Lyons was arriving at 4 o'clock, one man, whose cancer had spread to the brain, asked: "Can he come any sooner?"

In spite of his eccentricities, Lyons emerged as a man with some warmth and compassion (with at times a bad temper), eking out a dismal, pathetic life, obsessed with food, his finances and bodily functions. He enjoyed music and was distraught when his set of Gilbert and Sullivan operas, together with four weeks' supply of postboxers to get him through the trial, seemed to have been taken from his cell at Brixton. Even on remand, he offered to help out a prisoner in the next bed of the hospital wing who had failed in his attempt to commit suicide.

But on the other side of the coin were the cold-blooded references to plastic bags or bin liners: such comments by Lyons as: "Bag took 15 minutes to get cold"; his anger with a woman who changed her mind about suicide and fury that she had "disobeyed his commands". Others, he told a friend on the telephone, "could not get the bloody rabbits down quick enough."

Disabled barrister wins tax test case

By Kenneth Gossling

Thousands of disabled people are likely to be spared the tax bite as a result of a determined and single-handed battle by a Bristol barrister who has been disabled for most of his life.

Mr Peter Willows, aged 58, an inmate of the Bristol Prison, yesterday won a high court appeal against a decision of the Special Tax Commissioners in March last year that he should be assessed for income tax on his £481 mobility allowance for the year 1978-79.

He expects to receive £350-£400 in back tax and he said yesterday: "I am very happy my appeal has been allowed: it is the principle I was fighting for."

The ruling by Mr Justice Nourse came as a surprise to groups representing the disabled, who had not been aware that tax might not be liable on mobility allowance paid between January 1, 1976, and April 1, 1979, when the law was changed, subject to appeal.

Mr Willows said he had come to the conclusion three and a half years ago that the mobility allowance was not taxable. And his opinion, though rejected by local tax inspectors, then by the commissioners, was upheld by the judge.

He said that although Mr Willows's case was only concerned with the tax year 1978-79, the ruling was likely to be of wide application. It would apply, the judge said, to all mobility allowance paid before April 1, 1979, when the law was changed.

The scheme of tax legislation, applied to social security benefits, the judge said, was to impose a general charge to income tax with special exceptions. He said the 1975 tax legislation contained no reference to mobility allowance being either taxable or exempt.

Since tax laws had to be interpreted strictly, it could not be assumed, as the Crown had contended, that the allowance was subject to tax.

Mr Willows said last night that after looking into the tax question — and having not been entitled to the allowance originally because of his age — he had gone to the special commissioners after approaching local inspectors without success.

"They considered it for about an hour and a half and then turned it down flat," he said.

Because of his disability, Mr Willows has never practised in court. He was an assistant legal adviser to Bristol Corporation for 12 years and then went into business for himself. "But I got tuberculosis on top of everything else and had to discontinue my company."

The inland revenue last night would make no comment on the case until they had seen the ruling. Mr Willows said it was possible they would appeal, "but I do not fancy that they will."

There are 200,000 people receiving mobility allowance of £14.50 a week, which rises to £16.50 on November 25.

Condemned meat controls called inadequate

By Hugh Clayton, Agriculture Correspondent

Government plans to strengthen laws to prevent condemned meat from being sold as a grocery ingredient were criticised yesterday by Mr Bruce Cova, chief environmental health officer of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.

He was pleased that the Government wanted much condemned meat to be stained before it was sold, the judge urged him to come to the point. "I'll help you all I can, sir," Lyons, a start performer, replied, "even with a plastic bag."

Mr Cova said outside a London court on Thursday that the fines imposed on two meat traders shortly before had been ludicrous. The two men and a company of which they were directors had admitted a total of 183 offences under food and drugs laws.

Proposals for strengthening the laws were issued yesterday by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the food industry and zoo keepers, but not to veterinary or medical bodies. The ministry refused to issue the letter sent with the proposals by Mr Jack Hepburn, one of its assistant secretaries.

Mr Hepburn wrote that staining alone would not be enough to prevent abuse. "There would remain substantial scope for evasion unless there was a very considerable increase in surveillance, which we accept is likely to be ruled out by financial and manpower constraints," he wrote.

The Government therefore wanted the existing rule to be backed by "a general requirement for the prior authorization of all movements of this material."

Mr Cova, who said he was speaking in a personal capacity, commented that the government plans covered 16 points in a paper about staining from the Institution of Environmental Health Officers; it did not cover a further 25 points.

He considered the proposed increase in the maximum fine for offences under the Food and Drugs Act from £100 to £1,000 to be inadequate. We want it to be enforceable," he said.

He regretted that the Government did not plan to give enforcement officers the right to enter premises to inspect documents.

GANG RAPE AFTER GIRL WAS LURED

A schoolgirl aged 14 was ordered yesterday to be detained for three years for luring a girl of the same age into a rented council flat in south London where six youths pounced on her.

Mrs Barbara Mills, appearing for the prosecution, at the Central Criminal Court, said that the girl was stripped naked, imprisoned for an hour, raped, sexually assaulted and robbed of two rings.

Judge Michael Argyle ordered the detention of Sally Hussain, of Cowley Estate, Brixton, describing her as "evil". Hussain, convicted of abduction and robbery, had pretended to befriend the schoolgirl.

Derek Miller, aged 18, was sent to prison for three years for rape. Peter Graham, aged 17, and Trevor Rookwood, aged 17, were sent to borstal for indecent assault.

Anita Whewell, aged 16, was sent to borstal for robbing the victim of her rings. A boy aged 14 was ordered into council care for indecent assault. Sentence was postponed on Andrew Clarke, aged 17, and Roy Grant, aged 18, both convicted of indecent assault. All are from the Cowley Estate.

Judge Argyle rejected a defence submission that Hussain and Whewell should not be identified in newspaper reports from her fingers.

Clinic to pay damages

A women's clinic was ordered yesterday to pay a critically ill cancer victim £23,632 damages because of its negligent treatment of her.

But for the misdiagnosis of the case, by the Marie Stopes Clinic in Bloomsbury, London, Mrs Norma Pearl Sutton, aged 45 and the mother of two children, might have had a greater life expectancy, Mr Justice McCallan said.

Mrs Sutton, a former self-employed public relations officer, is not likely to live much longer, he said.

Mrs Sutton, of Shakespeare Tower, Barbican, London, had attended the clinic in August, 1977, complaining of a lump in her left breast.

The clinic, instead of referring her to a doctor, "acted as a diagnostician" and lulled her into a false sense of security, the belief that she had no malignant tumour, the judge said. In doing so, the clinic broke its "very sensible" rules. By the time the cancer was diagnosed and operated on in April, 1978, it was in an advanced stage.

Mr Justice McCallan said the weight of medical evidence from leading cancer specialists and surgeons led him to conclude that Mrs Sutton might have expected to live another five trouble-free years if the cancer had been operated on earlier.

Convicted cosmetic firm to redesign its jars

By Nicholas Timmins

Cosmetic companies may have to redesign thousands of jars of cream and skin products in which skin creams, and possibly other products such as shampoos, are sold, after the recent decision of a jury at Croydon Crown Court.

The packaging of some foods, confectionery and other products, may also be affected, with the total cost running into millions.

The jury convicted A and F Pears Ltd, makers of the famous Pears soap, of an offence under the Trade Descriptions Act, because the jar in which they sell their 54 gram size of Astral skin cream is 30 per cent larger than the volume of cream it contains.

The blue plastic jar has a double skin, the inner one tapered and rounded, leaving space between it and the sides and bottom of the outer shell. The company argued in court that the tapered inner skin is designed to allow the last of the cream to be easily extracted. The flat outer bottom was to make it easier to stack.

At Croydon Crown Court yesterday, when A and F Pears appeared for sentencing, the company gave undertakings that it will produce a new design to comply with the Act. It would be on the shelves by

the end of September next year. In the meantime, the existing design will have the words "double shell construction" added to the labelling.

Judge David Thomas agreed with Mr John Marriage, QC, acting for the company, that it would be unreasonable to expect the company to withdraw existing stocks. Sentence was deferred for four months to allow the court to see the progress made towards fulfilling the undertakings.

After the hearing Mr Raymond Cox, company secretary for Pears, said an appeal would be lodged.

Some confusion was introduced at the start of the hearing by the photograph of a jar of the cream, showing its internal construction, published in *The Times* last Wednesday.

Mr Marriage explained that two manufacturers make the jars for Pears, and there are slight differences in the internal construction of the two makes, although their outside dimension and the volume of cream they contain are identical.

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West aiming for Namibia progress by end of year

From Michael Hornsby, Windhoek, Oct 30

Western negotiators today ended their talks with the internal political parties here on the constitutional basis for an independent Namibia, and expressed optimism that the first phase of the independence process could be completed by the end of the year.

Speaking at a press conference before flying to Botswana and five other front-line black African states, Dr Chester Crocker, the American Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, described the talks as very worthwhile.

Flanked by Sir Leonard Allinson, a senior Foreign Office diplomat, and other colleagues from France, West Germany and Canada, Dr Crocker said: "We are leaving with a sense of having achieved what we set out to do."

In their day and a half here, the Western mission received a bewildering procession of delegates from 17 parties. One of them was the multiracial Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), itself a grouping of 11 separate parties, each representing one of the distinct ethnic groups (including whites) that make up Namibia's diverse population of one million.

In practice, only the DTA and three or four other political groups are of any consequence and capable of offering any real opposition in free elections to the South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO), which has been fighting a guerrilla war against South African rule in Namibia for the last 15 years.

Support for most of the other parties is not thought to extend much beyond the immediate family and friends of their leaders. Faced with elections, many of them would be likely to disappear or be assimilated into larger groups.

In an unexpected move today, the Western team also received a deputation from the shadowy internal wing of SWAPO, which is not technically illegal in Namibia, though its representatives are frequently harassed

and detained by security police. Apart from the two main white-based parties, whose rejection yesterday of the West's proposals could be an obstacle to securing South Africa's agreement, all the other groups consulted approved the constitutional draft, but questioned whether its principles could be made to stick after independence.

The Western five were able to offer little comfort on that score, arguing that once a country had become independent, no outside powers could be expected to act as guarantors of its internal developments, as some of the parties here had requested.

The main fear, here, is that if SWAPO were to win elections by a big majority, it could gradually move the country towards a one-party system despite constitutional restraints. Several delegates cited Zimbabwe as an example.

The most the West was prepared to offer was to study, in Dr Crocker's words, "ways of formalizing" the constitutional principles. One possibility, according to senior diplomatic sources, might be to embody them in a United Nations resolution.

This is as far as the West can go because SWAPO, and its backers in the black African states, argue that it is the elected constituent assembly which should draw up a constitution for Namibia, and they are reluctant to accept cast-iron constitutional commitments before the elections.

When the current round of negotiations is completed in a week's time, Dr Crocker and his colleagues will circulate a revised draft of their constitutional draft, which will try to meet some of the objections that have been raised. The changes are likely, however, to be fairly minor.

The West is also awaiting responses from the South African Government, the black African states, and SWAPO. Only if all these are positive, will the Western move on to the next phase,



Flying visit: Senior officers of the Chinese Air Force, led by Mr Zhang Zhong (second left) Deputy Chief of Staff, examining an X-ray of an aircraft fuselage with an RAF officer at RAF Brawdy, Dyfed, yesterday. The Chinese team, on a fact-finding tour which ends today, also visited the RAF College, Cranwell, and other stations.

Obote asks Asians to return

From Our Correspondent Nairobi, Oct 30

President Milton Obote of Uganda said today his government was preparing to compensate the Asians who were expelled from Uganda by the Amin regime in 1972. Alternatively, they were welcome to return to Uganda and take back the businesses and other property confiscated from them.

His Uganda People's Congress Government was committed to a mixed economy and did not believe in nationalisation, he told a large audience at Makerere university, Kampala, when he was installed as Chancellor of the University. He said Uganda had been plunged into "a pit of poverty" by President Amin, but it was now climbing out of that pit.

It was the second time Dr Obote had been installed as Chancellor of the university. He held the position before he was ousted in a military coup in 1971. He returned to office as President after the election last December, the first held since Uganda became independent in 1962.

Zimbabwe oil pipeline link is sabotaged

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Oct 30

Explosions apparently set off by saboteurs in central Mozambique two days ago have seriously damaged road and rail bridges connecting Zimbabwe with the port of Beira. This afternoon it became known that the oil pipeline on, which the Government here has been pinning its energy plans had also been hit.

A spokesman for Lonrho, which owns the controlling share in the pipeline, confirmed that it had been damaged but said it was too early to say how seriously. It was possible that the scheduled opening would be delayed.

Mozambique radio in a broadcast monitored here claimed that the attack had been carried out by "South African special units aided by Mozambique counter-revolutionaries," a reference to the rebel Mozambique Resistance Movement (MNR) which is waging a guerrilla war in Mozambique.

The pipeline runs from Beira to Umfolozi in east Zimbabwe and is in theory capable of transmitting all Zimbabwe's fuel requirements of about 700,000 tons a year. Having been closed

Dismissal of communist is upheld

From Patricia Clough Bonn, Oct 30

Herr Hans Peter, aged 51, who has worked for the West German Post Office for 30 years, was without a job today because he is an active member of the Communist Party.

The Federal Administrative Court in West Berlin ruled that Herr Peter's political activities were incompatible with the law that state employees must be true to the West German state and its constitutional principles.

The Communist Party did not support such principles, it found. The decision, which was much criticised in the press, was the result of the *Berliner Bot*, the highly controversial regulations banning political extremists from state employment.

The practice caused an outcry after people like engine drivers and Army cooks were dismissed and when tens of thousands of young applicants were checked for the security services, and those who had associated with political groups or demonstrations were barred.

The Federal Government has since dispensed with the preliminary checks in most cases but the ban against active opponents of the present system remains.

The *Süddeutsche Zeitung* commented: "That a communist cannot remain a postal official is really rather narrow-minded." *Hannoversche Allgemeine Zeitung* protested: "As if a little post official can bring the freedom of our state into danger."

The *Westdeutsche Zeitung* said: "The communists, who are a tiny minority in the Federal Republic, again have a reason to defame the 'wicked' state. The decision does more harm than good."

Soviet sub captain changes mind over Swedish questioning

From David Brown, Stockholm, Oct 30

The submarine was in such a sensitive area. A defence staff spokesman said the submarine would not be refuelled until a full explanation had been obtained. "We have plenty of time," he answered when asked how long the Swedish authorities were prepared to wait.

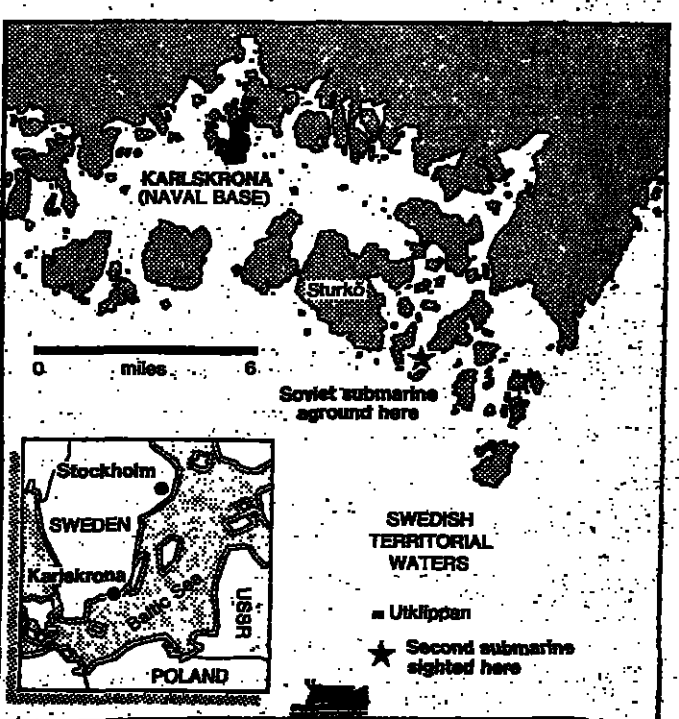
The Government yesterday rejected a Soviet request to free the submarine with its own salvage vessels and Moscow later agreed that Swedish vessels only should take part in the operation. But about 10 Soviet vessels, including two destroyers and several tugs, were still in the vicinity outside Swedish waters today, a spokesman said.

There has been no further sign of the unidentified submarine sighted just outside the restricted area yesterday, he added. It was the second sighting of an unidentified submarine in the area this year.

Swedish divers inspecting the stranded submarine found little serious damage, despite the fact that it is at least 20 years old. The stern was stuck in sand very close to an island and the vessel was listing slightly to port.

The Swedish navy continued off the area to prevent accidents with small, private craft gathering round the stricken submarine, a defence staff spokesman said.

The submarine has a radio frequency available for communication with the Soviet Union but defence sources did not know if any signal had been monitored.



The map on Thursday incorrectly plotted the grounded submarine to the south-west of Karlskrona.

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Antigua independence

Fragile future for a tiny tourist state

From Jeremy Taylor, St John's, Antigua, Oct 30

Barely six weeks after granting Belize its precarious independence, Britain sets free the rest of its remaining Caribbean dependencies, Antigua, this week.

As the Union Jack comes down for the last time at midnight tomorrow in the island's recreation ground, ending three and a half centuries of British dominion, Antigua's 74,000 population will face a fragile future as a tiny state far from self-reliance. There is also a possibly explosive threat of secession by Barbuda, its sister island.

Unlike Belize, nobody in Antigua seems to oppose independence. Even the opposition Progressive Labour Movement (PLM) supports it, having campaigned for it while in office in the early 1970s.

Can we depend on the mother country to guide our destiny? asks one of the patriotic cypresses competing for radio time and promotion for a "instant money game" and the American account of preachers and disc jockeys.

It's time we stand on our own feet... make independence mean something. The Government is spending an estimated £625,000 on independence celebrations and has lifted the 15 per cent consumption tax on paint, so that many of the jaded shops and offices in St John's, the sprawling capital, have had a multi-colored facelift.

The obligatory British warships are in the harbour, ready to give a midnight welcome salvo. A modest new parliament building and a new airport terminal are ready for opening; and cranes are struggling to complete an independence arch of three slender concrete pillars next to the recreation ground, one of which somebody dropped at the first attempt.

Antigua, a leisurely, uncrowded island of 108 square miles with more than 300 white sand beaches, has been virtually independent for 14 years already. In 1967 it was one of

six Caribbean associated states for which Britain retained only defence and foreign affairs responsibility.

Its politics have been dominated for 25 years by Mr Vere Bird, now 71 and the last survivor of the Caribbean independence generation of tough, mainly union-based politicians that included Bustamante, Norman Manley, George Adams and Eric Williams.

A wily pro-Western politician, Mr Bird, who has spent only five years in opposition since 1956, becomes Antigua's first Prime Minister in a dispute taking a hard line on labour unrest and riding a scandal set off by the Canadian Space Research Corporation, which in the mid-1970s was using Antigua as a re-shipment point for military equipment destined for South Africa.

Mr Bird was swept back to power in April last year when his Antigua Labour Party won 59 per cent of the vote and 13 of the 17 seats in parliament. He is expected to hand over before long to his burly son and deputy, Lester.

Antigua's most famous export is the cricket star, V. V. Richards, followed by sea island cotton. Its economy has been built loosely around tourism which is now suffering from international recession.

Antigua plays host to three American military bases as well as a new Voice of America medium wave transmitter and the BBC's Caribbean relay station.

Apart from winning enough economic support to survive, the one problem that will really test Mr Bird's political skills is Barbuda, a flat coral island 30 miles to the north, whose 1,500 people have their own island council and are complaining loudly of neglect by the central government in St John's.

The Barbudans refused to sign the final accord at the end of Antigua's constitutional conference in London last December.

Hijackers win release of prisoners

San Salvador, Oct 30—Five right-wing extremists, who seized a Costa Rican aircraft after releasing hostages in Costa Rica in exchange for six jailed Nicaraguans.

A Salvadorean military spokesman said the hijackers were detained along with the freed prisoners at an airport closed landing strip inside El Salvador.

The two pilots were allowed to fly back to the Costa Rican capital, San José, where the airport was closed for a day after the hijacking.

Police in Costa Rica said the hijackers, also thought to be Nicaraguans, had demanded the release of seven prisoners, but Costa Rican officials, who arrested them at the airport, refused to leave jail.

About 15 passengers were freed when the exchange took place, on the tarmac of San José's international airport.

The attitude towards the hijackers of the Salvadorean authorities was not immediately clear. But informed sources said it was likely to be sympathetic as the civilian military junta here was opposed to Nicaragua's leftist Government.

The well-armed hijackers had held the aircraft and about 20 passengers for 17 hours before the Costa Rican authorities released the six men.

The prisoners were allowed to join the hijackers on the small aircraft at dawn today in exchange for the hostages, who included three Americans, two Britons and a Swiss.

The hijackers, who had threatened to kill one hostage every hour if their demands were not met, then took off with the freed prisoners.

Reuters.

SECURITY COUNCIL POLL DELAY

New York, Oct 30—The Security Council, in which the chief United States delegate called a deadlock within a deadlock, has suspended its search for the next Secretary-General of the United Nations.

A meeting to resume balloting on the candidates of Dr Kurt Waldheim, the incumbent, and Mr Salim Ahmed Salim, of Tanzania, was cancelled.

Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the United States delegate, said neither Dr Waldheim nor Mr Salim would withdraw unilaterally. Until they did not, candidate wanted to present himself.

Reuters.

Cuba break condemned

Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 30—Jamaica's main opposition party last night condemned the Government's decision to break off diplomatic relations with Cuba and accused it of using fictitious arguments.

Yesterday, Mr Edward Seaga, the Prime Minister, announced the break because authorities in Havana were harbouring three criminals wanted by Jamaican police.

The Cuban Chargé d'Affaires in Kingston was given 48 hours to leave the country.

The left-wing opposition People's National Party, which was defeated by Mr Seaga's conservative Jamaica Labour Party in the general election year ago, said Mr Seaga had used fictitious arguments to justify allegations of interference in Jamaica's internal affairs.

Reuters.

Tanks and troops out in force after Bangkok bombs

Bangkok, Oct. 30.—Tanks rumbled through parts of Bangkok today and troops and police in the Thai capital were put on full alert indefinitely after two unexplained bomb attacks this week.

The increased security was accompanied by rumours of an attempted coup, but diplomats said the show of strength was more likely to be linked to attempts to discredit rival factions within the armed forces.

General Arthit Kamlang Ek, Assistant Commander-in-Chief of the First Army, ordered the alert last night. The third of this month was a key figure in crushing an attempted military coup in April against General Prem Tinsulanonda, the Prime Minister.

General Arthit sent tanks past the parliament building today, two days after the bomb attacks which injured two people. He said the alert was a normal precaution to ensure peace and security.

A government spokesman said in a report broadcast by Thailand radio tonight that the appearance of tanks on Bangkok's streets was part of preparations for a military display.

Military sources said about 1,000 troops were put on alert. Throughout the day police patrols and cars were stationed at main intersections and spot checks were made. Otherwise activity in the capital continued normally and there were no signs of nervousness.

The bomb attacks on two

government buildings in Bangkok, which were alleged to have led to the alert, remained a mystery, according to police. Both bombs were planted in lavatories. They injured two office workers in adjoining rooms. No one has claimed responsibility.

Some 24 hours later soldiers from special units surrounded and patrolled near the homes of two colonels who were dismissed after they led the attempt to overthrow General Prem seven months ago.

The plotters, called Young Turks, led First Army units, which seized Bangkok on April 1. The capital was retaken by General Arthit without resistance three days later when the royal family intervened and General Prem returned to power.

General Arthit, a major-general at the time, was quickly promoted to the rank of full general. He became the country's third-ranking general as commander of the key First Army, stationed around Bangkok, and Assistant Chief of the Army.

The coup rumours during the past 24 hours said junior commanders, possibly abetted by former Young Turk officers opposed to General Arthit, were preparing to seize power and stop his advance. There was no clear sign that this was so.

Other reports from diplomats speculated that General Arthit was the security alert to discredit his opponents and further consolidate his military power.—Reuter.

Trudeau warns Britain on patriation

From John Best
Ottawa, Oct. 30

Mr. Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, said today that Britain would have to pay a "political price" if it turned down a request from Canada for patriation of the Canadian constitution. He suggested that one result might be worsened Anglo-Canadian relations.

The Prime Minister generally struck a conciliatory note in advance of his meeting with Canada's 10 provincial premiers here next week on bringing home the constitution.

Asked at a press conference whether he would go ahead with his unilateral patriation initiative, in the absence of a federal provincial agreement, he said he hoped fears about the outcome of next week's meeting would prove groundless.

Eight of the premiers have doggedly opposed Mr. Trudeau's plan, now awaiting final House of Commons approval, for bringing home the 1982 British North American Act, with an amending formula and a Canadian bill of rights attached.

The Supreme Court of Canada ruled last month that the federal initiative, while strictly legal, violated established conventions requiring provincial concurrence.

Mr. Trudeau said it would be "very bad" for Britain to refuse to hand over the constitution of an independent country. "I don't think the British are ready to do it (refuse). If the British break the convention they are going to pay the price politically."



A man who wants to die arrives at a court in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to hear his mother's petition for a reprieve. Colin Clark is due to be executed for murder on November 5. He has said he would rather die than spend his life in prison.

US may seize oilfields, Tass says

Russia attacks Awacs sale to Saudi Arabia

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, Oct. 30

The Russians have described the sale of American Awacs early warning aircraft systems to Saudi Arabia as "a fresh round in the arms race" in the Middle East. They said the Americans were trying to expand their influence in an area that was already explosive enough.

Tass reports of the Senate approval of the deal said the Administration was paying the way for possible armed American intervention to seize Middle East oilfields. Under the pretext of servicing the equipment, the Pentagon would send 800 extra military personnel to Saudi Arabia.

An additional aim was an attempt to tie Saudi Arabia to the Camp David process, which had been rejected by the Arab world, the agency said.

Tass said the Senate vote came after "unprecedented pressure" from the "White House" and noted that this showed the White House was able to influence the Senate's attitudes when it wanted to. Tass contrasted President Reagan's commitment to the sale with the failure of the Administration to persuade Congress to ratify the Salt 2 agreement limiting nuclear arms.

Rome: The Italian Cabinet today approved in principle Italian participation in an international peace force for the Sinai peninsula, on the understanding that Britain, France and Holland, among European Community members, will also participate (John Earle writes).

The force, comprising contingents also from the United States and other countries, will be sent to the area of Sinai to be evacuated by Israel next April under the Camp David agreement.

No decision has been taken yet on the form of the Italian contribution, but it may consist of light naval vessels.

Italian participation is generally supported by the Government parties, but is opposed by the Communists on the grounds that the contingent will be operating outside the Nato area, under leadership not of the United Nations but of the United States, in furtherance of a settlement rejected by several states in the region.

With today's Cabinet decision the Government does not consider that it has identified itself with the Camp David agreement. Rather, its action has been governed by the European Community's declaration at its Venice summit, on self-determination for the Palestinians, and by the Security Council's resolution 242, calling on Israel to hand back occupied Arab territories.

Cairo: Egyptian police arrested 34 Muslim extremists last night and today, bringing to 58 the number detained since President Sadat was assassinated three weeks ago, security sources said.

The sources said some of the latest arrests were in the wealthy southern Cairo suburb of Maadi, scene of several gun battles last week when security forces stormed fundamentalist hideouts.—Reuter.

Protest at plan for developing mosque

From Christopher Walker,
Jerusalem, Oct. 30

More than 2,500 Muslim Arabs today converged on the abandoned Hassan Bey Mosque between Tel Aviv and the ancient port of Jaffa for a protest meeting against a scheme to develop the site into a commercial and tourist centre.

The controversial scheme has already angered a number of members of the Israeli Cabinet who are anxious that no damage should be done to Israel's reputation as a trustworthy guardian of the Christian and Muslim holy sites, now under its jurisdiction.

Today's protest was called by the Waqf (Islamic Religious Trust) which is appealing for funds to renovate the mosque. The issue has been taken up as a rallying cry by a number of radical Arabs inside Israel and in the occupied territories.

Constructed during the First World War by the Turkish commandant of Jaffa (later whom it was named), the mosque gained notoriety in the 1948 war of independence when its towering minaret became a favourite vantage point for Arab snipers firing down on Jews in the streets of Tel Aviv.

Bullet scars remain engraved in the heavy stone. But the building itself has fallen into disrepair after 35 years of neglect. During that time, its cavernous cellars have become a haunt for drug dealers and prostitutes.

The renovation scheme was initiated by an Israeli firm headed by Mr. Gordon Peres, brother of Mr. Shimon Peres, the leader of the opposition Labour Party.

IN BRIEF

10 die in crush at rail station

Johannesburg.—Ten blacks were killed and about 40 injured, many seriously, in a stampede at KwaMashu station near Durban, when hundreds of people tried to board two rush-hour trains which had been delayed by a power cut and arrived simultaneously. A police spokesman said people tried to rush from one platform to the other across a bridge. "The crush from the west side was stronger and the crowd fell forward down the stairs crushing the people coming from the east side", he said.

Another cooking oil found contaminated

Madrid.—A death from toxic pneumonia due to contaminated cooking oil was reported here, bringing to 179 the number of people who have died from the illness. Health authorities in Zaragoza in the north-east ordered an embargo on a new brand of oil called Oleoil found to be contaminated.

Springer sale barred

Bonn.—The Federal Cartel Office has barred the sale of a large part of the Axel Springer publishing concern to the Burda magazine empire, which would have bought 26 per cent of Springer at first and increased its share to 51 per cent by June 30, 1983, thus forming by far the biggest press interest in West Germany.

Swiss climber dies

Katmandu.—The leader of a Swiss mountaineering expedition that successfully climbed the 27,925ft. Lhotse in the Himalayas, died on his way back in Joseph Fauchère, a 35-year-old mountaineering and ski-instructor, slipped on a rock and plunged about 100ft.

Mehta job for life

Jerusalem.—Zubin Mehta, the Indian-born conductor who tried to lift the Israeli ban on Wagner, has had his appointment as musical director of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra extended for life.

38 held hostage

Graterford.—Flak-jacketed police stood vigil at Pennsylvania's largest prison, where a convicted murderer and three fellow inmates held 38 people hostage for a second day.

Manuscript record

New York.—An illuminated fifteenth century Italian manuscript, the Tacuinum Sanitatis, was auctioned for a record \$225,000 (about £125,000) to H. P. Kraus, a book dealer.

Chad asks Libyans to leave

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Oct. 30

The latest aboutface of President Goukouni Oueddei, of Chad, who last night called for the total withdrawal by December 31 of all Libyan troops stationed in his country, is regarded in Paris, where it took everyone by surprise, as creating a new and important state of affairs.

The head of the transitional Government in Ndjamena had given no inkling that he was about to take this step when he received Mr. Pierre Ricard, the French Charge d'Affaires, just after the departure for Tripoli of Major Jalloud, the Libyan Prime Minister.

Although the Chad situation has been fertile in imbrolios and unexpected developments in the last two weeks, the inclination in Paris is to take President Goukouni's statement at face value.

According to reports from Ndjamena, he had not been given approval by the Libyan Government, which had always said it would withdraw its troops if asked to do so by the authorities in Ndjamena, presumably confident they would never do so because it had President Goukouni under control.

It seems that the French Government's decision last week to provide logistical support to the transitional Government, and the impact of President Mitterrand's appeal from Cancun, Mexico, for the urgent dispatch of a pan-African peace-keeping force, which is now beginning to take shape, were key factors in President Goukouni's decision.

The move came after an alleged worsening of relations between Tripoli and President Goukouni because of his repeated refusal to merge his country with Libya (AFP reports).

REAGAN'S GIRL GOES FOR SENATE

Los Angeles, Oct. 30.—President Reagan's elder daughter, Maureen, will announce her candidacy on Monday for a Senate seat, aides said.

The President's daughter by his first wife, the actress Jane Wyman, would become the eighth Republican fighting for the Californian seat of Senator Sam Hayakawa. Mr. Reagan has said he would remain neutral if his daughter sought office.—Reuter.

Moscow 'gave promise' to free Korchnoi's family

Merano, Italy, Oct. 30.—The Soviet authorities have promised that the wife and son of Victor Korchnoi, the exiled Soviet world chess challenger, would be released from the Soviet Union, Mr. Fridrik Olafsson, president of the International Chess Federation, said here today.

He said the assurance that Korchnoi's wife Isabelle, and son Igor, would be able to join him in exile had been made to him by the Soviet authorities several months ago but no definite date had been given. It was therefore premature to say the promise had been broken, Mr. Olafsson said.

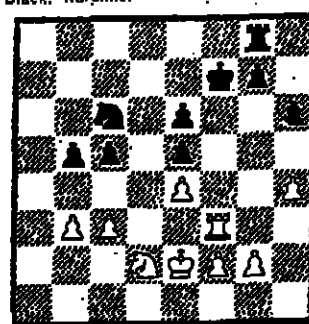
In Moscow Tass, denied that any promise had been made to Korchnoi, and condemned as a "monstrous lie" some Western press allegations that he was playing to lose the championship as part of an arrangement with Moscow to obtain exit visas for his family.

Soviet officials in Merano said that Korchnoi had never told his family could leave the Soviet Union before the championships.

Sources close to the Soviet delegation at the world chess championship here have said that the dossier on Korchnoi's family has been on the desk of the relevant authorities since October 1.

The eleventh championship game starts tomorrow afternoon with Karpov leading the march 4-1. He must win two more games to retain the title. The diagram shows the final position in yesterday's tenth game, drawn on the thirty-second move.—Reuter and AFP.

Black: Korchnoi



White: Karpov

What happens to your overseas contract if the money runs out?



In many overseas markets public and private capital expenditure is being cut back.

And where the axe falls on a project such as a highway or an airport, it could easily mean financial hardship for several companies along the line. Including some of our exporters.

This 'domino effect' may not yet have made your own exports any less profitable. But it is one more way in which exporting is becoming more of a risky business, where no-one can take payment for granted.

Today, the Export Credits Guarantee Department is paying out more and more on bad debts, not only from politically shaky countries, but from traditionally stable ones as well.

Recently a British engineering firm supplied construction equipment to a customer in the Middle East.

But the customer fell victim to circumstance since the orders for the plant he had received were suddenly cancelled. This meant that he in turn had to let down his own suppliers when payment fell due.

Fortunately, the British firm had covered itself with ECGD, and was reimbursed to the tune of 90% of its losses.

ECGD offers a full credit insurance service which covers you for non-payment on exports of goods or services, worldwide — no matter whether it's the customer or the country that fails.

But this is by no means the Department's only service to exporters.

For example, ECGD can also open up sources of cheap export finance, by giving cover direct to a financing bank.

If you're exporting anywhere in the world, however safe it may seem, you should at least find out what ECGD has to offer.

Call Joan Swales on 01-605 6699, or contact one of our regional offices in Glasgow, Manchester, Belfast, Birmingham, Leeds, Cambridge, Bristol, Croydon or City of London.

Because if the worst ever comes to the worst, why should you end up paying for your own exports?

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Have you had a brush with an urban fox?



The opening of the fox hunting season tomorrow will again see — and worse, hear — the shrill orchestrations of the anti-hunting lobby and its booming defence by the British Field Sports Society.

Perhaps, in this centenary year of the Masters of Foxhounds Association, a further voice should be heard in the hunting controversy: that of the naturalist who is committed to the preservation not only of the fox but the whole of the ecology and environment in which the fox lives.

The status of the fox in Britain today appears to many naturalists to be manipulated by propaganda — it is particularly unfortunate that the League Against Cruel Sports should, inadvertently, no doubt, mislead the public about the status of the fox in some of their announcements — so that the role of the fox should be so misunderstood today.

The league and other animal-love organizations might also project their minds forward to a more serious problem: that of the colonization of many British cities by the red fox.

The paradox of the foxhunting controversy is that an increasing number of naturalists, conservationists by definition, now believe that a legal ban on hunting would only accelerate the cumulative

damage to the British countryside. Like it or not, those who own the land have the fox. Remove the only reason for these people to maintain non-commercial coverts and small woodlands and the classic English landscape created by the in-filling of fields with hedges by the Enclosure Acts would dramatically change, irrevocably damaged, in a decade.

Equally, such a ban would have a disastrous effect on hill-farming where hunting, often on foot and frequently by invitation to destroy a known marauding fox, is an essential part not only of agricultural economics but the delicate balance of all wildlife in a frequently bleak and inhospitable world.

The alternatives, now being introduced in the control of urban foxes, of trapping, snaring and gassing are all indiscriminate methods of control which make no allowance for sex, age or fecundity. In the event of a ban on hunting there will probably need to be new legal rights of access to private property for the control of foxes and it should not be forgotten that many urban fox lovers regularly feed their foxes, especially vixens with cubs, and thereby protect them.

There is a touching faith among the organised fox-hunters that ultimate

protection of all wild species lies in legislation. I have repeatedly questioned this view. Specific legislation for the protection of individual species has been enacted in Britain since Henry VIII tried to protect spoonbills. Yet worldwide legislation has not, of itself, saved a single endangered species and, worse, seems unlikely to do so.

The second paradox about the red fox, the most socially complex animal in Western Europe, is that it has never before been so plentiful in Britain. Eighty years ago there was a thriving trade in "bagged foxes" being sold to hunters which lacked a quarry.

The success of foxes today, especially in its urban colonization, is due to its adaptability to live in almost any landscape. A fox will lie in wait under a small shrub on a housing estate and it has a truly omnivorous diet.

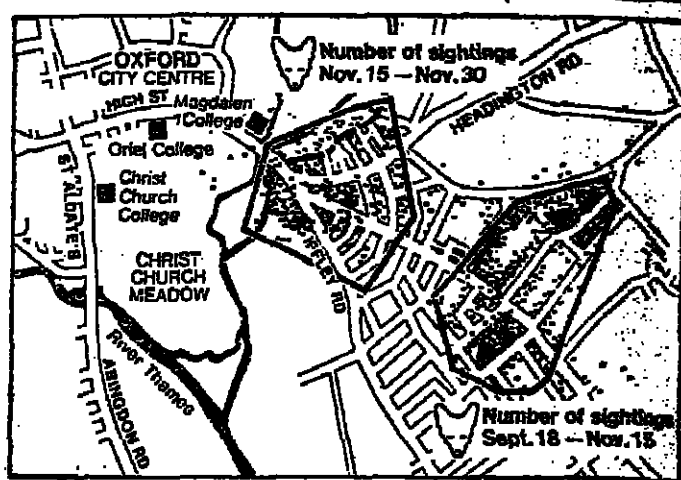
At the three territories I watch in a south-west London suburb — I am not particularly fond of the fox; it has imposed its presence upon me there is recurring evidence of its presence in the scavenging. The evidence includes bones from the family Sunday joint, crusts left in bread wrappers and especially the detritus left in the streets from fast-food take-aways. Even a neighbour's recently dead pet greyhound was disintegrated.

The fox is becoming the British scavenger pariah dog. London, Birmingham, especially Walsall, and Manchester and a host of smaller towns are being colonized to the point of nuisance and it is an entirely recent phenomenon. Now the fox sighting map of central London shows more foxes in the metropolis than in the Quorn and Cottesmore countries combined.

I am now prepared to predict that within 20 years, the urban fox will be a proscribed animal, treated with the contempt now reserved for the larger rodents.

My areas of observation are still being patch-colonized; gaps are being filled; the population is increasing dramatically and the fox is no longer a diurnal or night wanderer. I see foxes on the main streets of Teddington at the brightest of high noons. The high fecundity of three to four cubs per litter and their dispersal — teenage cubs are evicted by their parents to make their own way in the world — is intensifying the colonization process.

Why am I worried? The rural fox population is identified, understood and moderately well-controlled by hunting. My fear is that future legislation may be hysterically enacted to control urban foxes if their



The sightings of one fox in Oxford gardens

pariah-like activities become too anti-social.

The ultimate and so far unspoken fear is that of zoonotic disease — disease passed from animals to humans — of which the fox is not a prime vector except for pseudo-tuberculosis and salmonellosis and, of course, rabies, of which Britain, praise God, has been free largely through constant vigilance for half a century.

There is no proven scientific evidence in British veterinary history that the fox has been a vector of rabies. All the major epidemics of the late nineteenth century were most probably caused by rabid dogs, not even foxhounds.

But the proximity of fox, human and large populations of loved and cared-for urban pets should — must be — a consideration in what I believe will be the inevitable

control of urban foxes. Dare I mention that the Isle of Wight during the 1950s was years free of myxomatosis until an inspired farmer had an idea...

I do not know the factors which fill the gaps in this odd equation except that until someone can find a reasonable alternative which ensures equal conservation, legislation is not enough — and I have been pondering the problem for 20 years without reaching an adequate conclusion, rural fox hunting must be allowed to continue.

It is not the rural fox that worries me. It is his urbanized cousin who is not hunted.

James Preston

The author is a member of The Mammal Society. He does not hunt, shoot or fish.

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The wet Tories of Norway

Geoffrey Smith

For some time thinking Conservatives in Britain have had a nightmare — that their party might go the way of Scandinavian Conservatives: apparently one of nature's minorities, with a loyal following but out of the mainstream of politics. I well remember the extraordinary mixture of hope and hopelessness I encountered in their ranks on my first visit to Scandinavia to cover the Norwegian election of 1965.

They were confident that after many years of Labour rule a non-socialist coalition was about to be installed in office — and they were right.

They were the largest of the non-socialist parties. They had the most able politicians and they were eager. So when the conversation turned to who would be prime minister in the coalition, I suggested that it might be one of their leaders. "Oh no," I was told, "that would be impossible!" They bore a stigma and they knew it.

But now a purely Conservative government has just taken over in Oslo, the first time that the party has been in office by itself in Norway since 1927. In 1965 I met the party's young, self-confident, articulate general secretary, Mr Kaare Willoch. This week I talked again to Mr Willoch in Oslo, still self-confident and articulate, and at 53 still almost young, but now Prime Minister.

What can explain such a dramatic change of fortune? Is there such a strong right-wing tide flowing through the western world, with Mrs Thatcher ruling here and President Reagan in the White House, that not even Norway can resist it? Or may we be about to see a reversal of roles, with British Conservatives looking a trifle enviously at how their shrewd counterparts in Norway manage to govern with such little fuss?

Any comparison between this Norwegian government and either Mrs Thatcher or



Mr Willoch: a mistake in relying on growth?

Mr Reagan should be handled with care. Mr Willoch does not offer the rhetoric of the radical right but the language of gradualism. He and his colleagues are rather in the position of the Churchill Conservative government elected in 1951. It had to convince the British public, which still associated the party with the Depression between the wars, that it was safe to have the Conservatives in government. Now the Norwegian Conservatives have to reassure a country accustomed to Labour rule that it is safe to have them in office.

Yet it will not be enough for the Norwegian Government to provide safe administration. If it cannot bring about certain changes in society it will come to be regarded as failing in its

central purpose, a mere interlude in the long story of Labour rule. That was the fate of the 1965 coalition, which managed to change only the faces that took the decisions. Norway is a country that economic expansion it should be possible to devote a proportion of the additional income each year to personal tax cuts and higher defence spending, without needing to savage other forms of public spending.

It is a sensible strategy if the growth materializes. It stands a better chance of doing so in Norway, with her oil than in many other countries. But even so, the expression of a pious hope, rather than a policy, for any government in the western world these days to base its entire strategy on the assumption of growth.

What if it does not materialize? Already one notices some hedging of bets among other ministers. They "still hope that we can stick to our promise" on defence spending, rather than expressing an absolute conviction. Perhaps as time goes on there will be a more general lowering of sights. There will be another option if growth does not offer a painless solution. That is to reduce the public sector more rigorously, particularly the many subsidies, that form a high proportion of total public spending. But that would require a political will that is rather rare.

The chances are that when it comes to the test the Government will be Scandinavian before it is Conservative — giving priority to preserving a broad body of support for its policies rather than achieving its more distinctive goals, unless growth makes all things easy, Mr Willoch and his colleagues are more likely to provide an example to other conservatives of how to govern acceptably than of how to transform the legacy of social democracy.

Forty-eight years with one newspaper is, to say the least, unusual. In the old days, before university careers of officers suggested journalism as an alternative, the Foreign Service and Fleet Street were still a raffish place, a man who worked for the same paper even for ten years was regarded as a suck-in-the-mud. I was always editor when colleagues switched from one paper to another and boasted about their magnificent salary increases.

In self-defence, I used to say that I had changed jobs frequently than they had changed titles; messenger, reporter, foreign correspondent in more countries than I care to remember over a period of 24 years, etcetera, etcetera, as well as nearly seven years in the army.

My four children were born overseas, in Singapore, Delhi, Bonn and Washington. I covered wars in Kashmir, Israel, Korea, Malaya and Indo-China; mounted a one-man expedition into the higher Himalayas when Hillary was lost on Makalu; and penetrated the jungles of Brazil with a working party cutting a trace for the Trans-Amazonian highway.

I lived with a Beduin tribe on the Jordan-Saudi Arabian border; flew below sea level in a light aircraft; survived a nasty air crash; travelled as deck passenger in the South China Sea; and took tea with Chou En lai and dined at the White House.

Hardly a stick-in-the-mud, but enough of defensiveness. I stayed with the paper because it was *The Times*, one of the world's greatest newspapers which gave its writers a remarkable freedom to report the world as they saw it.

Not that I had a choice at the beginning. I grew up in London's dockland and wanted to be a sailor, but my father had been a sailor. *The Times* and I was expected

intentions. A start will be made in reducing food subsidies, there will be no dramatic cuts.

So far so good. The Government does not look as if it will blunder into error simply for the sake of starting with a bang. For the longer term it puts its faith in growth. The theory is that with economic expansion it should be possible to devote a proportion of the additional income each year to personal tax cuts and higher defence spending, without needing to savage other forms of public spending.

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Few public figures achieve the distinction of being called on the one hand, a saint, and a bastard on the other. Canon John Collins is one.

This turbulent priest, whose benign smile masks a relish for rough political infighting, has on occasion earned the plaudits and the wrath of entire governments in various parts of the world. When he retires today after 33 years as Canon of St Paul's he completes one dimension of a career that continues to provoke extremes of approbation and condemnation.

Once described by Winston Churchill as "either a fool or a communist" and once seized by the lapels and physically shaken by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Geoffrey Fisher (he later apologized), Canon Collins first became controversial as a founder of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. He was its first chairman in 1958 and with Michael Foot, Bertrand Russell, Kingsley Martin and J. B. Priestley led the Aldermaston marches and addressed rallies of up to 100,000 in Trafalgar Square. He soon became a hero to the doves and an ogre to the hawks.

Still a supporter of CND, he has long yielded his leading role in the movement to younger campaigners. With his retirement at the age of 75 from the governing body of St Paul's, the Cathedral is administered by a Chapter consisting of a dean and four canons — he will concentrate on leading the International Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa.

When he founded the fund he earned the fury of the South African government far beyond its usual resentment of anti-apartheid clergymen in Britain.

They are a distinguished line — the list includes such formidable names as Michael Scott, Trevor Rundleston and Ambrose Reeves — but Collins has become the most hated of them all among supporters of the South African government, not only for preaching against apartheid from the pulpit of St

Paul's but for his long leadership of "Defence and Aid" and its practical programme to fund the legal costs of South Africans charged under the apartheid laws.

Preterea could dismiss the sermons as rhetoric, but it could not dismiss the fact that black dissidents started being represented in court by able lawyers. This meant that the State, formerly relying on the complexity of the racial laws for quick convictions, had to start doing its homework before prosecution.

This led to greater publicity for such trials at a time when South African courts still refused to hear the fairly orthodox legal procedures in spite of the unorthodoxy of the new apartheid statutes, and the nature of these laws was therefore revealed to the world.

Preterea's propagandists put about the thought, echoed often by the Canon's detractors in Britain, that the Canon had made himself a captive of the far left to raise funds from communist countries for the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and the International Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa.

London has been the headquarters of the fund from the beginning, although it was only in recent years that Britain became one of the donor governments. The fund grew out of the Christian Action movement started in 1946 by the nucleus of an anti-apartheid group which Collins had been active, and its first major fund raising drive was for legal defence of Nelson Mandela and other dissidents which began in 1956 and dragged on for five years until the last of the 156 accused were acquitted.

It was the controversy occasioned by his involvement in anti-apartheid politics as much as by his role in CND that provoked Dr Fisher to



Canon Collins: never a dull moment

try with all the ecclesiastical influence of Lambeth Palace to bring the rebellious canon to heel, demanding the Collins contention that Christianity is meaningless if isolated from the general condition, including the political condition, of humanity.

John Collins was not always a rebel with a radical tinge. Born into a high Tory family, he travelled the traditional public school route to Cambridge, where he distinguished himself academically and became chaplain of his college after his ordination. He firmly believed in the virtues of the Establishment as the highest framework within which the best of Britons could be assured.

It was during the 1930s that he started repudiating elements of Tory dogma and by 1938, when he moved to Oxford, to become Dean of

Oriel, he began to perceive himself as a political maverick. At the time of Munich he was so impatient of Chamberlain's compromises and outspoken in supporting the Churchill position that his colleagues in the common room called him "Fire-eating John". Later, when Collins was in the RAF and organized lectures by Allied ambassadors, including the Soviet ambassador, on the war effort, Churchill made his remark implying foolishness or communist leanings.

During his days at Oxford, Collins had ministered to students with problems, and when 19-year-old Diana Elliot needed counselling over a boy friend, Collins, then 32, took over the role of a fatherly figure, himself, with a Brahms symphony as background music and a Wolseley car as bait.

She too came from a staunchly Conservative family, and they warned her against marrying a clergyman. "You'll have said a dull life, dear," they said. "You'll be miserable." "Bored?" says Diana Collins today. "Little did they know!"

She is a full partner in his campaigns against apartheid, nuclear weapons and whatever else arouses their joint ire. They have four children — Andrew, a barrister, Mark, a doctor, Richard, a dancer, and Peter, a mathematician — and were reluctant to leave their Wren home in Amen Court, with all its 33 years of family memories, which went with being Canon of St Paul's.

Though he ceases at mid-night to be Canon of St Paul's he will no doubt continue to be called Canon Collins and to look the part. He has long known how to do his job — to erase the mischief from his face and assume his surprised role to greet the Queen Mother at the door of the great cathedral.

The author was formerly editor of the *Daily Dispatch* in East London, South Africa, and fled to Britain in 1978.

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Player and gentleman with The Times



by Louis Heren

—seen here as a war correspondent in the Israel-Arab war 1948

despite those coal fires and sacred cows, the gentlemen knew the war great and painful changes were inevitable for the paper and the country. They showed a greater presence than editors of other papers, and for a while we were known as the *Forerunners of Pravda*. They also knew that the paper's view of the world had to be broadened, which may have persuaded them to send me abroad after less than a year as a reporter.

They took a chance. Ralph Deakin, the Foreign News Editor, said that it took only a few minutes to appoint a foreign correspondent, and often 20 years to get rid of him. I had the makings of a good reporter, but had little, perhaps too little, respect for established authority. Certainly I never allowed it to get between me and the news. It must have pained some of them, but they fully supported me when the complaints came in from Delhi, Bombay, MacArthur's Korean war headquarters, the British colonial administration in Malaya and the West German Government in Bonn.

Unlike some colleagues on other papers, I did not have to look over my shoulder. The support was also there, even when I was accused of being a communist. William Casey, who succeeded Robert Berington-Ward as editor in 1948, knew that I had some French, Basque, blood and gently brushed aside ambassadorial complaints by telling them that "Basques" were against all governments.

The *Times* had of course always trusted its correspondents, except for that dreadful lapse in the thirties when the reports of the Berlin correspondent were ignored, but Tyerman and others knew that I accepted the disciplines of the paper.

More than that, they must have known that I had been captivated, even seduced, by *The Times*. Not because it was the Top People's paper, slogan we all disliked, but because of those disciplines, its history and past giants such as Barnes, Delane and Russell, especially William Howard Russell, the first and greatest foreign war correspondent.

The pay was poor, but no young foreign correspondent worth his salt could not but try to follow in that great Anglo-Irishman's footsteps. At the beginning of the American Civil War his report of the first battle of Bull Run was a model of vivid reporting. He took on the established authority whenever necessary, and his coverage of the Crimean War brought down the Aberdeen ministry and persuaded Nurse Nightingale to go out to take care of the wounded.

The paper made further progress under the editorship of Sir William Haley. He and Tyerman dragged it into the second half of the twentieth century and pointed it in the right direction. This could have been our golden age, but quick as we were to adjust to the unknown future the company did not have sufficient funds to build on what they had achieved.

The crunch came in the mid-fifties when the board decided to rebuild old Printing House Square. Admittedly it was a slum, apart from those book-lined rooms, but Haley argued that available resources should be devoted to improving the paper by increasing the number of pages and hiring more writers. Journalists would, rightly said, work anywhere and under any conditions, as long as they

were helping to produce a good paper.

He was over-ruled, and the money was spent on building a new office block. News was put on the front page and the editorial content broadened and deepened, but without reserves the paper was vulnerable and was eventually sold to the Thomson Organization. Arguably it was a terrible mistake. The late Lord Thomson was a very considerable man, but within a few years after his death the publication of *The Times*, *The Sunday Times* and the *Sunday Express* was suspended for nearly a year because of an indecisive battle with the production unions.

The company was sold again, to Rupert Murdoch, an experienced newspaper proprietor, who appointed Harold Evans as editor. The future is still uncertain, but the paper has been greatly improved and if there is any fairness in this world it should become the greatest newspaper in the world and not just one of the greatest.

I would have liked to have helped, but there comes a time when one generation is expected to give way to another. At least I have had a good run, despite the disappointments and the younger men and women whom I was in a position to help, as Tyerman and other members of an earlier generation helped me, and the newcomers I have met are fully capable of improving the paper.

Journalists can be compared to old movies. It is true that they don't make them like that any more. The new generation are just as good as the old, perhaps better. With luck, and they and *The Times* surely deserve it after the recent dreadful years, they will create a golden age by the time the good news comes, the 200th anniversary in 1983. I wish them well.

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THE FUTILITY OF TERROR

Terrorism breeds fallacies as much as it degrades its perpetrators and offends human life and dignity. It is not uncommon among some professing liberals to assume that there must somewhere be a justifiable grievance, behind violent acts of terror and a sneaking feeling that violence somehow will triumph in the end. *The Times* which has this week been carrying a special series of articles on terrorism, regards these views as not merely woolly, but wrong and corrupting. It is therapeutic for the case for terror to be faced and seen for what it is.

Political crimes of violence are subject to a law of diminishing returns. The IRA seems to have learned this over the suicidal hunger strikes, but it has not apparently drawn parallel conclusions about indiscriminate bombing. The first bomb, like the first martyr's death, has some kind of impact on Government and public opinion. Subsequent acts do not pile up a pervasive pressure, however — quite the contrary. On the mainland, as in Ulster itself, political terrorism so reckless of innocent life causes increased revulsion. It does not weaken resolve. It strengthens it. Opinion polls are only one source of evidence for this, though they are impressive.

This is bound to be the case where terrorist groups lack any significant degree of popular support—even passive support—and where the authority they face is so sustained by its public belief in its own objectives. For these reasons, the history of urban terrorism in the Western world has been very largely a history of futility. The Baader-Meinhof Gang in West Germany found no echo whatever among the people on whose behalf they claimed to be engaging in acts of violence against the state. The state, for its part, responded to Baader-Meinhof with the determination which any soundly-based democratic system is entitled to use in self-defence.

Conversely, of course, political violence has tended to be effective in circumstances where the authority under attack is weak, and where the population concerned has suffered from the kind of injustice upon which extremists can feed—where the terrorists, in Mao's words, swim in a friendly sea. The use of terrorism in the post-war world by national liberation movements proved effective for these reasons. During the period of de-colonization, small nationalist groups prepared to use violent means were locked in struggle with metropolitan powers which—lacking the will to

resist, despite the resources at their disposal. In some cases, indeed, the metropolitan power came to sympathise with the cause of rebellion, namely self-determination for a population under alien rule.

The IRA would argue that it finds itself in just such a colonial situation, and that its use of violence will triumph. But the fatal flaw in this argument is that the IRA does not in fact represent the aspirations of a majority struggling to be free. On the contrary, it seeks to impose a change of sovereignty on a large and stable majority that emphatically rejects it. The "metropolitan" power—Britain—is not denying the right of self-determination to a colony, it is vindicating the right of self-determination of a province. Even if—and this is not conceded—the unit for self-determination is taken to be Ireland as a whole, the IRA still lacks any valid claim to represent that voice.

It is considerations of this kind which have led the United Nations to take the view that acts of terror which are directed against a legitimate government and do not reflect a real grievance are reprehensible, while those undertaken in the course of a national liberation struggle are not. It is difficult to sustain such precise distinctions. Clearly the planting of bombs by the IRA in the centre of London or Belfast, with attendant risks to innocent life, falls into the first category. But it is right to suppose, as the UN inclines to do, that terrorism undertaken by the Palestine Liberation Organization or the South West Africa Peoples Organization is different in kind? Swapo, it is true, claims to be fighting on behalf of an indigenous population in South West Africa (Namibia). It has support. But Pretoria would, with justice, contest Swapo's claim to represent all Namibians, something which can only be tested in elections.

The case of the PLO is more complex. It undoubtedly represents a large proportion of Palestinian opinion on the West Bank and in the diaspora, but it also claims sovereignty over a territory which is already occupied by a legal and internationally recognized state, namely Israel. The PLO has itself confused matters by refusing—so far—to make clear whether it seeks self-determination for the Palestinians in the whole of former Palestine, or only in part of it. If the latter, then PLO terrorism directed against Israeli occupation of the West Bank—which is illegal—may be said to have some legitimacy as an act of war, at least in UN terms. In practice, however, PLO terrorism has proved just as counter-productive as IRA

terrorism, since it has made Israelis apprehensive about the very idea of a Palestinian state.

Moreover, even if Swapo or PLO terrorism is held to be a justified act of war, rather than an unjustified attack on a civilian population, there can be little agreement about which targets are "legitimate". The killing of unarmed civilians is at all times wrong, and cowardly. Nothing can condone attacks on school buses or airports, whatever any United Nations General Assembly may say, however exemplary the motive might appear to be. But under what circumstances is the ambushing of a military convoy or the assassination of a government official to be condoned; and who is to decide whether the grievance thus expressed is real or imagined?

The most worrying aspect of such obstacles to definition, is that they have paralysed all efforts by international bodies to get to grips with terrorist acts. To some extent the Council of Europe's 1977 Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism is an honourable exception. None the less, several European countries—including Ireland—have dissented from its reference to "offences inspired by political motives".

It is possible to see why a Hungarian in 1956, or an Afghan in 1981, might approve this equivocation, but it is hard to see how democratic states can justify any cant which inhibits cooperation against so-called "transnational terrorism". If the IRA, the Japanese Red Army, and other urban terrorist groups can pool their resources under the bloody patronage of Libya, it will be pathetic if democratic governments do not concert their resistance effectively.

But important though policing is, inside and across borders, it is a mistake to believe that this is all that is necessary. Three other responses are required. There must be public vigilance against the bomber, but against the cynical capitalist as well. And there must be support and encouragement for politics in the best sense, for the painstaking search for resolution, compromise and reconciliation. This is what the Western powers have been trying to do with Namibia and for the Palestinians; and it should be noted that the PLO, now forswearing terrorism at least formally, has advanced its cause more rapidly than in earlier years. And let it be noted well that terrorism can never put a grievance right. Politics has to do that. Terrorism may win attention but it often destroys the cause it claims to serve.

POLITICS FAILS TO STOP PLAY

A sigh of relief will escape lovers of cricket in many countries at the announcement that England's tour of India will take place after all. Had it been prevented much more would have been lost than the prospect of an interesting winter's cricket. The whole pattern of Test cricket as we have come to know it would have been in jeopardy.

The tour would not have been called off because England insisted on maintaining cricket contacts with South Africa. The two countries have not played each other since the MCC tour of 1968-69 was cancelled because of the D'Oliveira affair. England very properly refused to allow the government of another country to determine who should be permitted to be a member of the touring party. Since then the English cricket authorities have gone further. Not only do they play no Test cricket against South Africa, but they warn cricketers eligible to play for

England not to take part in any international or representative matches in that country. But to do more than that would have been an intolerable infringement of individual rights. If a cricketer wishes to coach or to play as an individual in South Africa, or in any other country, that is up to him. For England to have been blackmailed into dropping, or refraining from choosing, any player who had done so would have been to surrender the very principle that was upheld in the D'Oliveira affair.

That would have been impossible. So if the Indian Government had insisted the effect would have been to rupture cricketing relations between India and England. Perhaps India could still have toured England. But there would have been a question mark even over that, and it would have been a short step from there to a deplorable division between the white cricketing nations and the others.

That has been avoided, and avoided on honourable terms. It has been fashionable for many years in this country to assume that cricket administrators are blessed with no gift beyond the recollection of how they used to play. Their conduct in this instance has belied that criticism. The cricketing authorities in India have consistently made clear their wish that the tour should proceed: they have not been the ones making difficulties. The authorities in England have been equally keen that the tour should go ahead, but not at any price. They have now secured the conclusion for which they have been striving without any sacrifice of principle. It must now be hoped that the episode can be consigned to history and that a memorable tour will confirm the cricketing bonds between the two countries. At least this sorry affair has shown how much they are valued on both sides.

BRENT BLAZES THE TRAIL

Local government is overweight and a burden on our backs, but let it not be said that it altogether lacks compassion. Take Brent as a warning, not to say heating, example. The London borough of Brent has enclosed with its demands for the payment of supplementary rates (the notorious Livingstone levy) advertising matter from a confidential loans company—32.5 per cent per annum, and with general interest rates at Reagan levels that could be fairer than that?

None of our great public utilities; gas, water, electricity, the new yellow telephone company, has thought of that, much as they message their customer relations. Yet a bridge loan to carry over to the next quarter's statement is just what more and more of their customers require. Brent's

example is particularly commendable. It is a Labour controlled council but that has not prevented it from making available to its ratepayers the services of a private money-lender. It takes a bit of time for a council to set up a department of its own for the making of confidential loans on a personalized basis: extra staff of the right calibre must be recruited, premises found, and the whole operation cleared with Nalco. But here a council has identified an emerging need, recognized its urgency, and cut through party dogma to achieve the interim arrangements described above. This is local improvisation at its best.

Yet just as Mrs Thatcher is shy of taking credit for the remorselessly compassionate

increase in public expenditure which has occurred, and is continuing under her government, so it is with Brent. A spokesman is reported as saying that the scheme is not ideal. "We would have sent something like literature for *Encyclopaedia Britannica* if we could. But we had no option." This is hard to follow. An encyclopaedia is a ready help in time of trouble, but if you are stuck for the sum you are required to pay for other people's bus and tube journeys there is not much the *Britannica* can do for you beyond filling you in on the meaning of the expression "distress warrant". A confidential loan is more to the point. If the councillors are too modest to draw attention to themselves, others must do so. Well done Brent.

New plans for Namibia

From Mr Julian Amery, MP for Brighton Pavilion (Conservative)
Sir, Dr Crocker's proposals (report and leading article, October 29) for a new basis for independence seem on paper at least, to provide a reasonable compromise between the views of the opposing sides. The difficulty, as you rightly say, lies in how far the protection offered by entrenched clauses in any constitution can be made effective. Here much will turn on the wider environment in which Namibian independence might take place.

If a Swapo (South-West African People's Organization) Government were to take office in Windhoek, the neighbouring Angola remained a one-party Marxist state under Soviet/Cuban control, the risks to South Africa and to other Western interests could be unacceptably high. There would be little to stop such a government setting up a one-party state and establishing African Nationalist Congress guerrilla bases on its territory with Soviet/Cuban support.

If, on the other hand, the Soviet/Cuban presence were withdrawn from Angola and the non-Marxist parties—Dr Savimbi's Unita and Mr Holden Roberto's FNL—were included in the Angolan political process, hopefully by the same sort of electoral arrangements as are proposed for Namibia, the risks would be very greatly diminished.

By the same token the West will need assurances that similar safeguards to those proposed for the minority groups in Namibia are also made available to the opposition parties in Angola. To achieve this, a "colonialism" from Namibia while Soviet "colonialism" remains entrenched in Angola would be a major and very dangerous defeat for the free world.

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN AMERY,
House of Commons,
October 29.

Farm tenancies

From Mr J. E. Hooson
Sir, In rejecting the NFU/CLA (Country Landowners' Association) package for landlord-tenant reform (report, October 24) the Labour subcommittee have not only killed hopes of a greater number of tenancies being available in the future but have also introduced a new and less desirable criterion for existing tenants. It was in order to move away from the "open-market value" criterion, with its scarcity and key money element, to one which took account of the earning capacity of the land that the NFU, representing tenant farmers, agreed to a new formula of life-time tenancies for new letting.

Certainly it creates two classes of tenants with the possibilities of the successors under the 1976 Act and those who knowingly accept farms that their successors may well have to surrender on their deaths.

The alternative, which presents declining acres of let land, is far fewer farms being let at all. It is the view of both sides of the industry that a growing number with lifetime security is infinitely preferable to a continuing reduction in numbers of "100 year tenants", especially since all tenants, new and existing, would enjoy better rent arbitration.

It is to be hoped that these points are being considered by the executive deliberates next month. Whilst all this talk takes place the let sector dwindles and rent arbitrations continue on the present basis. Even with the greatest haste we are missing the Queen's Speech of Nov. 1982. Let us hope that dogma, prejudice or ideology do not prevent a sensible solution to a problem which is as much about social structure in the countryside as economics.

If we fail, future generations will justifiably say we all fiddled whilst Rome burnt.
Yours sincerely,
JOHN E. HOOSON, chairman,
NFU/CLA subcommittee of
England and Wales,
National Farmers' Union,
Knightsbridge, SW1,
October 24.

Christians and the bomb

From the Reverend E. H. Chitty
Sir, Ronald Butt ("Arms questions the CND must answer" October 29) speaks of a "cruelly sentimentalised Christianity", and it is, if he believes "man must need love the highest which he sees it". Sometimes he crucifies it.

I was a pacifist and conscientious objector in the last war and served in Bomb Disposal and the RAMC. In France my Red Cross armband did not save me from a burst from a Schmeisser, nor did it effect it. Despite many studies of animal behaviour passive resistance or surrender is not necessarily "disarming". It can provoke violent reactions in human beings.

For me Christian pacifism is a spiritual vocation and follows its own paradoxical logic. Those who feel called this way can only respond in trust and let God make what he will of their obedience. It was never a political policy, though in CND "true pacifists" (Mr Butt's phrase) will march with unexpected companions.
Yours sincerely,
ERNEST CHITTY,
Flat 2,
8 Adamson Road,
Hamstead, NW3,
October 29.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Protecting the Antarctic wilderness

From Mr James Dawson

Sir, The experience of oil consortiums endeavouring to extract oil and natural gas from the icy regions of the North Slope of Alaska are germane to the debate concerning the Antarctic wilderness. Moving icebergs are the potent enemy of seabed pipelines carrying the oil to depots for tanker collection.

These difficulties apply equally to oilfields in the Laramie/Newfoundland coastal areas, of great and natural beauty unchanged since Viking times. "Iceberg alley" from the calving of Greenland bergs renders surface oilrigs and seabed pipelines so hazardous as to be almost commercially impossible. Costs in this area are 70 per cent higher than in the North Sea.

Commercial exploitation of the Antarctic, in real terms, is impractical while present and imagined engineering techniques in ice-prone areas apply. Nuclear submarine tankers to carry oil and natural gas from the North Slope and other northern areas of Alaska and Canada have recently been mooted for under-ice navigation.

This is a repeat of a public relations exercise, in 1968, by the General Dynamics Corporation for under-ice oil tanker submarines.

It is far in advance from the drawing board, being fraught with navigational difficulties among others. Whilst oil and natural gas reserves are finite as any mining operation, it will be many years before ice problems in oil extraction, psychological as well as physical, become a practical commercial reality. Shale oils are only now emerging as commercially interesting, after many years of rejection.

The therapeutic affect of the still silent areas of the world, is

known to few people. Glacier Bay National Park, in Alaska, framed by the Fairweather range of mountains, dusted with fresh snow in the rare sunshine is a sight that imprisons itself on the mind.

Tourism in Alaska, on the doorstep of America's west coast, is booming. The Alaskan and American governments have rationed the number and frequency of cruise ships to the other beautiful national parks in the interests of the breeding of the threatened humpback whale; at present the permitted figure of cruise ships is 89.

The US National Park Service's officers are zealous and knowledgeable in defending the sanctity of Glacier Bay with its five glaciers, and help both scientists and tourists to appreciate the complexity of the life chains in their parish.

The same care could, and should, be exercised in Antarctica. The national park principle could be enlarged to international parks over large areas, where penguins and sea birds would be protected, as they are in areas of Alaska. A wilderness need not be raped by tourism if it is controlled by dedicated scientists, teachers and conservationists supporting legislators.

The enormous difficulties attending the gaining of commercial profit from oil and gas in the northern icecap area are child's play when compared with those to be faced in Antarctica.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES DAWSON,
Honorary Secretary,
British Chapter,
Explorers Club,
P.O. Box 45,
Tower Place,
London, EC3,
October 29.

Staying afloat

From Mr S. Higashi

Sir, I am not concerned with Mr Atkinson's assessment of the current fortunes of British shipbuilders in his letter of October 7, but I must reply to his criticisms of the Japanese shipbuilding industry.

Japan has never implemented measures with the intention of monopolising the world shipbuilding market. The Japanese share of world shipbuilding increased to the extent it did in the early 1960s because the industry made great efforts to increase productivity and to meet the needs of shipowners with more modern facilities. Shipowners appreciated this improvement and placed more orders with Japanese shipbuilders.

True, Japan provided shipbuilding facilities for big tankers in the early 1970s, but then so did European countries, and nobody could have foreseen the 1973 oil crisis. Mr Atkinson may need reminding that, following this crisis, Japan was the first shipbuilding country to cut back capacity by 35 per cent in fact. It was Mr Atkinson's allegation that "Japan started the subsidy race in 1962 by the introduction of cheap export credit" I would only say that since 1963 Japan has

taken an active part in the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) work, and amongst the OECD countries who established the 1969 understanding on ship export credits, an understanding which, to my knowledge, all OECD members, including Japan, have since applied.

Mr Atkinson has misunderstood the situation in stating that Japanese shipbuilding is preparing for "a new round of expansionism, about 6500m (sterling) in fact". This figure is an approximation of one put forward as a likely investment figure by the Japanese shipbuilding press.

Furthermore, although Japanese shipbuilding companies intend to allocate a very low percentage of this investment to renovating outdated shipbuilding facilities, the greater part will be allocated to other activities which are quite separate from shipbuilding. Indeed they are prohibited by law from expanding shipbuilding facilities without government permission. To quote it in connection with shipbuilding alone is therefore gross exaggeration.

Yours faithfully,
S. HIGASHI, Director General,
Japan Ship Centre (Jetro),
24 Eastcheap, EC3,
October 26.

Sir Roger Hollis

From Mr Chapman Pincher

Sir, Your letter from Sir Martin Furnival Jones and Mr C. A. G. Simkins (October 21) provides the first official confirmation of the claim in my book, *They Trade in Treachery*, that Sir Roger Hollis, who preceded Sir Martin as Director General of MI5, was interrogated on suspicion of being a spy. The Prime Minister in her statement to Parliament admitted only that Sir Roger had been investigated. MI5's response to suspicion of espionage is divided into three stages. The suspect is first subjected to investigation carried out, as far as possible, without his knowledge. If the findings appear to support the suspicion he is then interviewed. This takes the form of discussions usually carried out in a friendly manner. Interviews usually lead to further investigation, which may prove positive the suspect is then subjected to interrogation, a more direct and often hostile form of examination intended to induce admissions and, hopefully, confession.

The confirmation that Sir Roger

was recalled from retirement, as he was in 1970, to be subjected to interrogation, which I know to have been quite routine, makes nonsense of suggestions that the event was merely routine. Most of those who carried out the inquiries over the previous six years involving much foreign travel believed the internal intelligence evidence to be so weighty that Sir Roger might confess, which he did not.

What Sir Martin alleges that there was "not a shred of evidence" that Sir Roger had been disloyal he can only mean legal evidence of such a nature that it could have been brought into a British court of law. There was no legal evidence against Fuchs or Blake until they confessed during interrogation. It was lack of legal evidence which induced Mr Harold Macmillan to clear Philby in Parliament in 1955.

Yours faithfully,
CHAPMAN PINCHER,
Church House,
16 Church Street,
Kintbury,
Newbury,
Berkshire,
October 21.

Architecture Studies

From Mr Owen Luder

Sir, On July 22, you published a letter from me about the University Grants Committee's guidance on cuts in the university sector or higher education, in which I expressed the hope that any rationalization should be in the national interest be truly rational and national. I believed that architectural education would stand the test better than many disciplines.

Now we have a tragic example of the crazy situation into which we are getting ourselves. A proposal is to come before the Senate of the University of Bristol that the School of Architecture be closed.

The UGC itself went only so far as to suggest that there should be discussions about cooperation between the schools in Bath and Bristol. I understand it was made clear that any cuts should not be so large as to threaten their viability.

make it clear that they did not intend there to be haphazard closures of this kind.

Yours faithfully,
OWEN LUDER,
Royal Institute of British Architects,
66 Portland Place, W1,
October 29.

False fire

From Mr Paul Ferris

Sir, thanks to BBC 1's "Fighter Pilot" (October 28) we know what some of those low-flying military aircraft that swarm over Welsh hill country are up to. A Buccaneer pilot was seen being briefed for (and then making) a simulated rocket attack on Welsh nationalists who were messing about with transmitters. What fun.

It might be a shade more tactful, though, for the RAF to stick to battles between Red Force and Blue Force. Most of the Welsh, myself included, are not nationalists in any political sense of the word. But that makes such a scenario for British planes in friendly skies all the more inept. Why give hostages to extremists?

Yours faithfully,
PAUL FERRIS,
26 Roehampton Court,
Queens Road, SW13,
October 29.

Expatriate art treasures

From Mr Maurice E Cooke

Sir, The principle in the controversy whether Benin bronzes, the Elgin Marbles and certain Ethiopian documents should be returned to the country from which they were "looted" (letters, October 21, 23, 24, 27, 28) is being lost in details. Details are important—notably the fact that the Elgin Marbles were bought, not "looted"—but the principle is more so. For the principle is both morally bad and politically disastrous.

It is morally bad because it rates nationalism above art, science and scholarship. Nothing could be less desirable than that all British art should remain in Britain, all Mexican in Mexico and all Ancient Greek in modern Greece and Turkey. Art, science and scholarship are for man, not nations.

The principle is politically disastrous because it could not be confined to art but must extend to territory. So the Americans must hand back their homeland to the Indians from whom they "looted" it; and the Anglo-Saxons: England to the Welsh; and the Welsh to . . . whoever they took it from.

These examples are fantasies but others are not. Alsace-Lorraine was "looted" by Louis XIV and has been part cause of three wars; should it cause a fourth? Ulster (according to the IRA) was "looted" by the Protestant settlers; and Palestine either by the Jews from the Arabs or by the Arabs from the Jews.

If time is not to confer good title then no man is secure in what he owns, and war is endemic. In these conditions: the Benin bronzes, the Elgin Marbles, and the Ethiopian documents will probably be destroyed.

Yours sincerely,
M. E. COOKE,
8 Menai View Terrace,
Holyhead Road,
Bangor,
Gwynedd,
October 28.

From Professor Kenneth Kirkwood
Sir, "Stolen from the Royal Palace in Madrid in 1869". Such are the words which read beside Goya's "El Medico" presently on display in the splendid Spanish exhibition in the National Gallery and on loan from the national galleries of Scotland. The words are printed also in the accompanying catalogue, *El Greco in Goya*, which supplies more detail of the picture's provenance, eg "the only certain tapestry cartoon by Goya not in the Prado, Madrid".

Commendable. Scottish forthrightness. Certainly the picture appears to be in excellent condition and to be cherished by the Scots.

Yours truly,
KENNETH KIRKWOOD,
St Antony's College,
Oxford,
October 25.

Concern over Soviet Jew

From Lieutenant-Colonel P. Davis, RM (Retd)

Sir, May I report the latest travesty of justice which recently occurred in Kishinev, USSR? On May 30, 1981, Vladimir Tsukerman was arrested outside the synagogue after attempting to lead a peaceful procession with some 40 men, women and children, to the Ministry of the Interior to protest against their repeated refusals to allow them to join their families in Israel.

Mr Tsukerman's wife and young child have lived in Israel for the past three years. After four months in prison Mr Tsukerman was tried on the charge of "causing a public disturbance", found guilty and sent to a labour camp for three years. There is no possibility of an appeal as the trial took place in the Moldavian Supreme Court.

Mr Tsukerman served in the Soviet Navy until 1975, hence my interest in his case. I, together with other retired Royal Naval and Royal Marines officers, wrote to the Soviet Ambassador on August 3 last to express our concern, but to date we have not had the courtesy of a reply.

Yours faithfully,
PETER DAVIS,
29 Tuckton Road,
Bournemouth,
October 19.

Change of party

From Mr Bernard Denvir

Sir, Although it is more than a little naïve in me to be so, I am disturbed by the implications in Lord Vaizey's letter on Thursday (October 29) that his friends tell him that he had delayed leaving the party which enabled him, "I might by now have found myself a cushy number on the SDP bandwagon".

He left that party at the moment of a general election, and with what can only be described as the minimum of reticence. It would seem that in thus commiserating with him his friends are displaying a remarkably consistent view of his motivation.

Yours &c,
BERNARD DENVIR,
85 Knatchbull Road, SE5.

Taken in vain

From the Reverend W. T. Armstrong

Sir, The Dean of Hereford (October 27) must steel himself against even greater degradation of the queen of the sciences.

Some weeks ago, on BBC Television's *Ask the Family*, the usually literate Mr Robert Robinson was heard to say that, before the programme started, the staff had had a theological argument on whether the correct expression was "a dog's dinner" or "a dog's breakfast".

Yours faithfully,
W. T. ARMSTRONG,
Lower Beeding Vicarage,
Horsham, West Sussex.



The European roots of ecumenical change

MR BERNARD GUY
Varied military, business
and church career

second retirement at the age of 70, he was general secretary of the Jerusalem and the East Mission, a post which followed from his experiences in the Middle East.

During his five years with the Mission, he was closely involved with the Most Rev A. C. Holmes, the first Arch-bishop, and the establishment of the Archbishopric of Jerusalem, (replaced in 1976 by the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East) and in the launching of St George's College, a training college in Jerusalem for Anglican clergy.

A man of energy and enterprise, and ever resourceful, his inquiring mind and varied interests kept him active to the end. Those who knew him will especially remember his sense of fun, and the kindly practical help he was always ready to give.

He was married first to Joyce Natalie Fisher who died in 1922, and secondly to Catherine Young Hagart, the mother of his four children (two from each marriage) survive him.

Through this association with the group and its subsidiary, Cary played an important part in the business life of Stratford-upon-Avon; the affinity he felt for the town and its people was reflected in the group's involvement in local affairs and activities.

Having been in farming all his life, Cary held many offices in the National Farmers' Union, culminating in county president between 1973 and 1975.

He is survived by his wife, Nan, and four daughters.

much of his time, and he will always be remembered with gratitude and deep affection by all those who were privileged to serve with him.

Major-General Sir James d'Avigdor-Goldsmid writes: "Your admirable obituary notice of General Gerry described in detail his great contribution to horse racing as an administrator, and his achievements during his extended tour as Senior Steward of the Jockey Club, a powerful record for time in the appointment."

What was omitted was reference to his work on behalf of the Stable Lads Welfare Trust whose chairmanship he took up when he had finished his tour as Senior Steward, and which he held for eight years until the death of the Duke of Devonshire. Under his guidance and direction the Trust has grown in size, importance and responsibilities. This was due largely

His accessibility and easy manner combined with his charm and ability and willingness to talk to anyone made him a popular figure. We shall remember him not only for his achievement but for his guidance and sense of direction, his sound judgment and his sound advice.

DR. HINTON

The first flight between New York and Rio de Janeiro, and the first flight to Brazil, was piloted on an expedition into parts of the unexplored Amazon River valley.

A friend of the Wright brothers, Dr. Alexander H. Hinton, was the first to fly with Richard Byrd. Hinton was the last surviving member of the crew which flew an NC-4 from

Mrs Jenifer Parsons, wife of Mr Richard Parsons, CMG, Britain's Ambassador to Spain since 1979, died suddenly in Madrid on October 28. She was Jenifer Jane Mathews, and they were married in 1960. There being three sons of the marriage.

Lady Loyd, wife of Sir Francis Alfred Loyd, KCMG, BBE, died on October 26. She was Katharine, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel S. C. Laytall, MC.

5 years ago
from The Times of Tuesday,
October 30, 1956

Israel march on Suez
from Our Correspondent
Tel Aviv, Oct. 28

...the Egyptian forces are marching towards Suez. It was announced tonight that bases in the El Kuntilla and Ras et Naqurah have been attacked, and the positions west of the Nahal road junction, towards the Suez Canal, have been occupied. An Israeli army announcement says that the operation was necessitated by the continuous military attacks on Israeli land and sea communications, the purpose of which was "to cause destruction and deprive the people of Israel, of the possibility of peaceful existence."

The depth of penetration is 80 kilometres (50 miles) inside Egyptian territory — roughly half the way to the Suez Canal area. The territory through which the Israelis are advancing is desert country, cut by deep Wadis.

Drama controller

Nicholas Elliott, who had been expected to leave London Weekend Television for a job with breakfast-time television, is to stay as controller of a new drama unit.

ts department, it was announced yesterday.

Saturday Review

The gifts of the Gonzaga

by Peter Watson

"They have vanished", said Aldous Huxley, speaking of the Gonzaga dynasty, the Renaissance Dukes of Mantua. "They are as wholly extinct as the dinosaurs".

When Prince Charles opens the Splendours of the Gonzaga exhibition next week at the Victoria and Albert Museum, the dinosaurs will walk again. In the 16th century, King Charles I, bought a great number of paintings from Vincenzo Gonzaga in a move that was the beginning of the end for the Mantuan dukes: the rest of their great collections were subsequently dispersed around Europe. Now, for the first time in 350 years, some of the paintings, furniture, jewels and ceramics have been brought together again.

Peter Watson travelled to Mantua to explore the ducal palaces that were the home of a family who, despite their hunch backs and congenital syphilis, created one of the most civilized courts Europe has ever known. I stumbled across the Gonzaga by happy accident. Interested in Charles I's magnificent collection of paintings, I was astonished to learn that he had bought many of them in a single sale in the late 1620s from Vincenzo Gonzaga, Duke of Mantua. Who, I asked myself, was this Duke who had amassed such a collection in the first place? Works by Titian and Tintoretto, Rubens and Mantegna, Giulio Romano and Paolo Veronese, Correggio and Giovanni Bellini — and was yet poor enough, or mad enough, to part with it?

I soon learned that Vincenzo was the weak, inept, sterile runt of a once formidable family; that, according to the art dealer Daniel Nys, who in the 1620s acted as intermediary in the sale to Charles I, the Duke had let the paintings go for 68,000 scudi, far less than their market value. "... to the surprise of all Italy and the disgust of the people of Mantua".

The story of how the Gonzaga rose from mere peasants to rule one of the most civilized courts of all time, and then to crash again, caused Huxley to describe Mantua as "the most romantic city in the world". It is perhaps another happy accident that the Gonzaga exhibition opens while the BBC series about the Borgia in Rome is running on television. For though the Gonzaga are not, at the moment, household names, like the Borgia themselves, the Medici in Florence, the Sforza in Milan or the Estensi in Ferrara, the artistic trappings of the Gonzaga court are every bit as worthy of our acclaim as those of other families.

For example, at one time or another, the Gonzaga court had Giulio Romano and Alberti as its architects; Pisanello, Andrea Mantegna and Peter Paul Rubens as its painters; nine tapestries woven in Brussels around 1530 based on Raphael's cartoons for the Sistine Chapel; Giuseppe Monteverdi as its composer and master of music; and Baldasar Castiglione, author of *The Courtier*, as its ambassador to Rome. And possibly the first children's school.

Mantua itself is also unusual physically. It was originally a five-sided island, as a result of the damming of the River Mincio as long ago as 1198. Even now it is surrounded on three sides by these lakes. And the Ducal Palace and its associated buildings house a number of curious yet impressive features which help show what an idiosyncratic family the Gonzaga were. For instance, the ducal buildings include:

- Stabling for 500 horses, with a special arena where they could be displayed to visitors;
- An enormous roof garden (about the size of the garden at the top of Baker's) for the people to exercise during the formal meals at court, which often ran to more than 100 courses;
- A curious domed room, built by Giulio Romano and frescoed with pictures of plants and where the echo lasts a full seven seconds;
- An entire apartment built to scale for dwarfs;
- A bedroom with a maze on the ceiling, just in case the Dukes got bored;
- Staircases for horses, so the Dukes and their wives didn't have to walk up to their rooms;
- A clock, constructed in 1473, which not only told the time of day but also provided a horoscope for the Mantuan people the proper days on which to prune plants, take medicine, go to the doctor, start on trips, or make clothes;
- A bell tower with a cage halfway up, on the outside: here prisoners were kept, on show.

Note that the impressive is mixed up with the unusual, indeed the bizarre. There was certainly an extraordinary side to the Gonzaga which perhaps gives a fresh insight on Renaissance



Faces from one of the most-civilized courts of all time: above, Isabella d'Este, in a portrait by Leonardo da Vinci; Francesco Gonzaga, in commemorative form; and bottom, terracotta bust of Francesco Gonzaga II, by Minelli

life, one not so easily seen in the lives of the better-known families. For instance, although there was a Gonzaga cardinal by 1461, and nine more before 1615, and though one of them nearly became Pope and another was a candidate for canonization, the family was at the same time fascinated by astrology. Next to the main hall on the top floor of the Ducal Palace is a room devoted entirely to the study of stars. In the Palazzo Te, Giulio Romano's summer palace for the Dukes, there is yet another room given over entirely to the heavens; and elsewhere in Mantua, in another villa, is an astrological room (actually above a chapel) that is decorated with grotesque and obscene renderings of Gemini, Cancer, Taurus and so on.

The family kept dwarfs, and themselves possessed hump-backs. Isabella d'Este, one of the best-known of the Gonzaga, she married into the family — put together one of the Renaissance's most fabulous collections but this too had its unusual and fantastic aspects. It was the fashion then for its paintings, tapestries or sculptures according to school, origin or age, as museums do now, but to jumble everything up. So Isabella had sculptures by Michelangelo and Praxiteles' Sleeping Cupid mixed up with fish teeth, a unicorn horn and a musical arrangement which consisted solely of the pauses between notes.

The fantastic and the extravagant may be what attracts us now. But it is also true that the Gonzaga governed uninterrupted and in peace for more than 200 years, longer than any other ruling family in Italy. All round them were more powerful, and richer dynasties. The Gonzaga had no military prowess worth speaking of. Why and how they survived to produce such a sparkling court is one of the enigmas of the Renaissance and the main reason why they are of such fascination to scholars.

Genealogists in Italy have tried hard to find an aristocratic strain in Gonzaga blood. The city of Virgil, Rigoletto and the relic of the holy blood seemed somehow to require it. But the genealogists have failed.

The Gonzaga were peasants to begin with, living under the protection of the Monastery of San Benedetto in Foligno. The monastery received land in the form of bequests from wealthy families — and gave it away in small parcels to locals who promised to cultivate their portions. By dint of rural diplomacy with the monks, the Gonzagas thus managed to amass rural property.

They moved to the city of Mantua in the thirteenth century and began to take part in political life. As their wealth increased (the city became rich also through the trade in textiles and silk) so did their ambition. The ruling family at the time were the Bonacolsi but, in 1328, Luigi — then head of the House of Gonzaga — overthrew the Bonacolsi by means of a silent midnight coup.

Luigi borrowed troops from Cangrande della Scala, lord of neighbouring Verona, and they crept across the bridges in silence, so that the fighting took place right in the centre of Mantua itself, in the main square.



The battle scene is beautifully rendered in Domenico Morone's *The Expulsion of the Bonacolsi*, a marvelous mixture of browns and reds, gold and cream. This picture normally hangs in the Ducal Palace but is just one of the masterpieces brought over to the V & A.

According to documents in the Gonzaga archive, Luigi humiliated Rinaldo's body and kept it for good luck — a wise move since his family were to rule in Mantua in unbroken succession from that humid autumn night in 1328 until 1630. Thus they were established long before most of the other, more familiar Renaissance dynasties (their collapse coinciding incidentally with the loss of Rinaldo's corpse).

Under the early dukes, Mantua expanded and the city wall was rebuilt. After Luigi, the first Gonzaga of real note was Gianfrancesco who, trading on the wealth of the family through its superb farm management, squeezed the title of Marquis out of the German Emperor Sigismund Hohenzollern in 1433.

Squeezed is the right word: it cost Gianfrancesco 12,000 gold florins to secure the title, a price considered so exorbitant that the emperor also threw in the hand of his niece Barbara of Brandenburg for Ludovico, Gianfrancesco's son. The family was on its way and many more diplomatic marriages were to follow, to the



Top: Ludovico Gonzaga with his secretary — detail from Camera degli Sposi by Andrea Mantegna; Renaissance Mantegna map of Mantua; and another detail painted with the arms of the Gonzaga

and earning the nickname, "That pleasant little hunchback". The fourth marquis, Francesco II, was painted by Mantegna and can be seen at the left of the *Madonna of Virtù*, now in the Louvre. Francesco II was sensual rather than artistic. He loved horses and erotic verse with the same intensity, and it was he who helped build the fabulous stable of 500 animals. He gave them away as presents, very often to English kings, and at one stage there was a plan to present 200 of them to Henry III of France when he went to Mantua on a visit.

Colourful as he was, Francesco was eclipsed by his wife, Isabella d'Este. Isabella rates as the most famous female patron of the Renaissance. She kept her thousands of objects in a small studiolo and grove (so called because it was made to resemble a cave) which admitted her secret garden. After she was widowed she lived in these apartments with her ladies in waiting, equally colourful girls with names like Tortolina, Diana "piu calda del sole" (hotter than the sun), and Isabella Ballerina.

Clifford Brown, in the *Burlington Magazine*, has discovered the following among Isabella's fabulous possessions: allegorical paintings by Mantegna, Piero Perugino, Lorenzo Costa, Jan van Eyck and Correggio; 133 rare books including Petrarch, Apuleius, Philostratus, Ovid; coffer of walnut; chests of pearwood and beechwood; an astrolabe in a tooled leather case; an inkwell in the shape of a harpy's foot; 1,600 engraved gems; two engraved jaspers with fossil remains; five jasper salt cellars; 71 crystal cups and vases decorated with silver; a dog's muzzle with gold grating.

In 1478 the plague hit Mantua and carried off Ludovico; his son we can forget about — he was probably the least distinguished Gonzaga, reigning only six years

Then there was her Michelangelo Cupid (a gift from Cesare Borgia), her Praxiteles Sleeping Cupid, a Satyr by Antonio Lombardo, a damascene water jug, a silver perfume bottle, a porphyry table with floral and animal designs under crystal insets, and on it a walnut casket holding 90 gold and 140 silver medallions.

She made her own perfume, persuaded Leonardo to sketch her, and collected the Este Gonzaga maiolica dinner service designed by Nicolo da Urbino with all manner of designs from Apollo to lion-hunting scenes to musical notation and the Gonzaga arms. (Some of which is in the exhibition).

Isabella's influence on Mantua was as rivalling as Ludovico's had been. Particularly it influenced her son, Frederico II. He was adored by both his father and mother but he did have to spend two years as a hostage in the luxurious Papal court of Julius II. His artistic taste thus became very Roman and, when his father died in 1519 (from syphilis), Frederico assumed power at 19 and lost no time in negotiating to bring Raphael's favourite pupil, Giulio Pippi, better known as Giulio Romano to Mantua.

In this Baldasar Castiglione was influential so that Romano was in Mantua by 1524. Romano seems to have been perfectly suited to Mantua with his taste for the "fantastic and rhetorical" and in the space of three years built three palaces. At that time Mantua was still an island and Romano's most ambitious palace was the Palazzo Te, a bow-shot from the town. The Palazzo Te was for relaxation and breeding horses but Romano also designed allegorical and political pictures for its walls. They were designed to praise and bolster the Emperor Charles V when he visited the renovated Mantua in 1530. Giulio's play seems to have worked, for the Gonzagas were elevated to dukes following the emperor's visit.

Isabella died in 1539, and Frederico not so long after. He went in 1545, probably from congenital syphilis like his father and so many others in the family; and then Giulio Romano followed in the next year. With these three deaths the golden age of the Gonzaga ended.

An unhappy period followed: there was rule by an austere cardinal and by Castiglione, a misanthropic bigot with a body badly deformed by his hereditary hump. In truth the Gonzaga were on the way down — but there was still one late sparkle to brighten the court.

Vincenzo I was the exact opposite of his father Giulio. He was handsome, loving, gregarious, though with a predilection for getting into duels and scandals. It was Vincenzo, I who called on the services of Rubens (who spent several years in Mantua), Monteverdi (who wrote *Orfeo* and *Il Ballo delle Ingrate* in Mantua and whose orchestra played every Friday night in the hall of mirrors). It was Vincenzo who kept a full-time ambassador in Spain searching for the fabled "elixir of life".

Yet though we must remember Vincenzo with warmth, and though he had neither syphilis, the plague nor the family hump, the fact remains that he died in incredible debt (maybe the search for the elixir had something to do with it, maybe being married to Eleanor de Medici was a further drain on his purse). Whatever the reason, Vincenzo's debts were so chaotic that when he died, and his son soon after, his nephew Ferdinando had to resign from the college of cardinals to get to grips with the problems entailed in governing Mantua. Ferdinando, a cultured man, stemmed the tide for a while and brought to his city the artists Domenico Tenti, Saraceni, Baglione and Albani.

Yet it could only be an interlude: Vincenzo's profligacy had been too dramatic. And when Ferdinando died in 1626 there was no direct heir — which brings us back to his brother Vincenzo II.

Vincenzo was so weak that he barely had time to part with his paintings, which included: Titian's *Concert*, Deposition and the lost *Portraits of the Caesars*; allegorical paintings by Correggio, the *Triumph of Mars* by Tenti, and a portrait by Giovanni Bellini.

Whether he let them go for too little scarcely mattered to him — he was dead inside a year, so he can barely have had time to spend the money anyway. His final pathetic act was in contracting a sterile marriage so that when he went the duchy passed out of the main line of the family altogether, to Carlo Rethel Gonzaga Nevers, a French princeling.

Three years after that matters accelerated even faster: Mantua was sacked by imperial troops. The Gonzaga Nevers, it should be said, did make an attempt to recreate Mantuan glory but unfortunately for them Ferdinando Carlos took the wrong side during the War of the Spanish Succession. In 1707 he had to flee to Venice but was declared a felon, all rights in Mantua passing into the hands of Austria. So when Ferdinando Carlos died in 1708 the Gonzaga line disappeared with him.

But though the fabulous collections were dispersed and in some cases destroyed, the enigma of the Gonzaga has persisted. They were splendid without vast riches, stable without being large, endured without being militaristic. In short, the society created by these syphilitic hunchbacks came closer to being truly civilised, in the modern sense, than most others throughout Europe. That is why they remain fascinating.

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ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL
TOMORROW at 3.15 p.m.
AMADEUS QUARTET
with
WILLIAM PLEETH cello
play
SCHUBERT
Quartet in A minor, D844 ("Romanze")
Quintet in C, D958
£2, £3, £4, £5, £6, £7 from Hall (01-928 3191)
Management: 1825 and 1141/11/12/13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/49/50/51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60/61/62/63/64/65/66/67/68/69/70/71/72/73/74/75/76/77/78/79/80/81/82/83/84/85/86/87/88/89/90/91/92/93/94/95/96/97/98/99/100/101/102/103/104/105/106/107/108/109/110/111/112/113/114/115/116/117/118/119/120/121/122/123/124/125/126/127/128/129/130/131/132/133/134/135/136/137/138/139/140/141/142/143/144/145/146/147/148/149/150/151/152/153/154/155/156/157/158/159/160/161/162/163/164/165/166/167/168/169/170/171/172/173/174/175/176/177/178/179/180/181/182/183/184/185/186/187/188/189/190/191/192/193/194/195/196/197/198/199/200/201/202/203/204/205/206/207/208/209/210/211/212/213/214/215/216/217/218/219/220/221/222/223/224/225/226/227/228/229/230/231/232/233/234/235/236/237/238/239/240/241/242/243/244/245/246/247/248/249/250/251/252/253/254/255/256/257/258/259/260/261/262/263/264/265/266/267/268/269/270/271/272/273/274/275/276/277/278/279/280/281/282/283/284/285/286/287/288/289/290/291/292/293/294/295/296/297/298/299/300/301/302/303/304/305/306/307/308/309/310/311/312/313/314/315/316/317/318/319/320/321/322/323/324/325/326/327/328/329/330/331/332/333/334/335/336/337/338/339/340/341/342/343/344/345/346/347/348/349/350/351/352/353/354/355/356/357/358/359/360/361/362/363/364/365/366/367/368/369/370/371/372/373/374/375/376/377/378/379/380/381/382/383/384/385/386/387/388/389/390/391/392/393/394/395/396/397/398/399/400/401/402/403/404/405/406/407/408/409/410/411/412/413/414/415/416/417/418/419/420/421/422/423/424/425/426/427/428/429/430/431/432/433/434/435/436/437/438/439/440/441/442/443/444/445/446/447/448/449/450/451/452/453/454/455/456/457/458/459/460/461/462/463/464/465/466/467/468/469/470/471/472/473/474/475/476/477/478/479/480/481/482/483/484/485/486/487/488/489/490/491/492/493/494/495/496/497/498/499/500/501/502/503/504/505/506/507/508/509/510/511/512/513/514/515/516/517/518/519/520/521/522/523/524/525/526/527/528/529/530/531/532/533/534/535/536/537/538/539/540/541/542/543/544/545/546/547/548/549/550/551/552/553/554/555/556/557/558/559/560/561/562/563/564/565/566/567/568/569/570/571/572/573/574/575/576/577/578/579/580/581/582/583/584/585/586/587/588/589/590/591/592/593/594/595/596/597/598/599/600/601/602/603/604/605/606/607/608/609/610/611/612/613/614/615/616/617/618/619/620/621/622/623/624/625/626/627/628/629/630/631/632/633/634/635/636/637/638/639/640/641/642/643/644/645/646/647/648/649/650/651/652/653/654/655/656/657/658/659/660/661/662/663/664/665/666/667/668/669/670/671/672/673/674/675/676/677/678/679/680/681/682/683/684/685/686/687/688/689/690/691/692/693/694/695/696/697/698/699/700/701/702/703/704/705/706/707/708/709/710/711/712/713/714/715/716/717/718/719/720/721/722/723/724/725/726/727/728/729/730/731/732/733/734/735/736/737/738/739/740/741/742/743/744/745/746/747/748/749/750/751/752/753/754/755/756/757/758/759/760/761/762/763/764/765/766/767/768/769/770/771/772/773/774/775/776/777/778/779/780/781/782/783/784/785/786/787/788/789/790/791/792/793/794/795/796/797/798/799/800/801/802/803/804/805/806/807/808/809/810/811/812/813/814/815/816/817/818/819/820/821/822/823/824/825/826/827/828/829/830/831/832/833/834/835/836/837/838/839/840/841/842/843/844/845/846/847/848/849/850/851/852/853/854/855/856/857/858/859/860/861/862/863/864/865/866/867/868/869/870/871/872/873/874/875/876/877/878/879/880/881/882/883/884/885/886/887/888/889/890/891/892/893/894/895/896/897/898/899/900/901/902/903/904/905/906/907/908/909/910/911/912/913/914/915/916/917/918/919/920/921/922/923/924/925/926/927/928/929/930/931/932/933/934/935/936/937/938/939/940/941/942/943/944/945/946/947/948/949/950/951/952/953/954/955/956/957/958/959/960/961/962/963/964/965/966/967/968/969/970/971/972/973/974/975/976/977/978/979/980/981/982/983/984/985/986/987/988/989/990/991/992/993/994/995/996/997/998/999/1000/1001/1002/1003/1004/1005/1006/1007/1008/1009/1010/1011/1012/1013/1014/101

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Records of the Month

John Higgins

The best of British

Masenet: Werther. Von Stade / Carreras / Allen. Covent Garden Chorus and Orchestra / Davis. Philips 6769 051 (3 discs) £75.95.

Verdi: La Traviata. Masteron / Brecknock / da Fonseca. EMI 52 16 (2 discs) £15.25.

Strauss: Arabella. Varday / Donath / Fischer-Dieskau. Bavarian State Opera Chorus and Orchestra / Sawallisch. EMI 5220 (3 discs).

The chauvinist heart is entitled to swell a little this month confronted with opera sets stemming from each of the major London houses. On Philips there is Masenet's Werther, with the Covent Garden forces under Sir Colin Davis and the cast led by Jose Carreras and Frederike Von Stade, just as it was at the Royal Opera at the beginning of 1980, when presumably this record was made. EMI provide a Traviata in English, with Valerie Masteron and John Brecknock, and the Coliseum supplying the whole cast as well as the chorus and orchestra under Sir Charles Mackerras. Both issues show the respective companies' use to their very best.

The main flaw in Philips's Werther is that it comes last in a batch of recordings of the work. Two years ago it would have been difficult to track down a complete version of Masenet's masterpiece; now there are three, each thoroughly creditable in its own way, with Domingo and Orazova on DG, Kraus and Troyanos on EMI as well as the new Philips. Fame has turned to super-abundance in a ludicrous piece of planning, which will surely not be repeated in future now that Philips, DG and Decca are all under the same wing.

The quality of Philips's version grows from a romantic and romantic view of Masenet score. He submerges himself and his listeners in a tidal wave of music from the sensuality of the clear, the hazy sequence in Act 1 to the neurotic, almost Germanic side of Masenet in the third act.

"Souffrir sans cesse" is Werther's lot in life, as he tells us on more than one occasion. What most distinguishes Carreras's interpretation of the title role is the thread of melancholy running through the voice even during his moments of apparent happiness, when for instance he catches sight of Charlotte's house in "Je ne sais pas si je veille." Carreras certainly did not convey this when he first sang the role in San Francisco (also with Von Stade) and probably the Colin Davis influence is to be heard here. He surpasses Kraus's exquisitely phrased but chilly account and Domingo's far more impassioned Werther. The poet is doomed to be a sad outsider and this is exactly what Carreras conveys.

Von Stade is infected by the same tristesse in her admirably girlish Charlotte, on a par with Troyanos and much better than Orazova. The rest of the cast is British, proving that our singers, and the Coliseum supplying the whole cast as well as the chorus and orchestra under Sir Charles Mackerras. Both issues show the respective companies' use to their very best.

EMI's new Traviata is recorded "in association with the Peter Moores Foundation." Mr Moores receives a substantial part of the back cover of the libretto and he also provides a synopsis of the plot. EMI should also be grateful to the Coliseum for handing over the package of a highly accomplished cast and so saving them the trouble and expense of assembling a number of international singers. And there's even an endorsement from Humphrey Burton.

The presentation still has an economy look about it, including the compression of Verdi's opera on two records, but there is nothing penny-pinching about the performance. John Brecknock and Valerie Masteron have always worked well in tandem and here the clarity



Frederica Von Stade as Charlotte

and youthfulness of their singing, together with their matchless diction, give the impression of two people falling in love in a way that eludes many more seasoned performers on the international circuit. Christian du Plessis, often an inflexible artist on stage, comes over admirably on disc as Germont. Peter Charles Mackerras moulds his orchestra and singers in a way that brings out the intimacy of stage work. It is almost as though we were eavesdropping on a play and that is a considerable compliment to the whole enterprise.

If any further indication were needed of record companies' dependence on opera houses then EMI's set of Richard Strauss's Arabella provides it. This time Munich is the theatre. Years ago, when the Bavarian State Opera's home was still in process of reconstruction and

the company was in exile at the Prinzregententheater, we went to hear a young baritone called Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau sing Mandryka, with Lisa della Casa in the title role.

Fischer-Dieskau remains EMI's Mandryka and his wife, Julia Varday, is the Arabella. She is demonstrably a young girl deciding her own fate to shake off the yoke of her down-at-heel Viennese family for an unknown and older man from a much rougher part of the Danube. Varday has not the ideal huskiness for the melodic outpouring of the final scene, something Kiri te Kanawa achieves so well, but elsewhere she is close to being a complete Arabella. Fischer-Dieskau remains the ideal Mandryka. Voices are favoured over the orchestra, but even so Sawallisch's instrumental colouring is often exquisite. A thoroughly commendable set, but still not one to banish from the mind the more sumptuous Soli version on Decca.

Paul Griffiths

Hand and voice

Liszt: Songs. Fischer-Dieskau, Barenboim. DG 2740 254 (four records).
Schubert: Lazarus. Mass in G. Solists. ORF Chorus and Soloists. PO/Guschnbauer. Erato ST 71442 (two records).
Brahms: Ein deutsches Requiem. Schickel, Janowitz, Kraus, Vienna State Opera Chorus. Vienna PO/Haendl. Philips 6769 055 (two records) £75.95.

Cynics might suppose that Fischer-Dieskau now turns to Liszt only because he has exhausted every other corner of the lied repertoire, but not 20 years ago he made a record of a dozen Liszt songs, and this new set, offering 43 plus one of the accompanied recitalists, shows throughout a firm belief in the material. Or if belief is sometimes stretched by Liszt's extravagance or tastelessness, then at least a certain fondness.

But that kind of response is really only called for in some of the more sentimental French songs. Elsewhere Fischer-Dieskau justifies Liszt's declaratory tone superbly well, as in the forward style of expression and delivery that catches the feelings vibrating in the surface of these songs. And where emotion is more deeply involved, as in the madly, madly in the Three Petrarch Sonnets, then he glides through the idiosyncratic phrases, sensitively disclosing the sweetness and the heartbreak.

The Petrarch set, undoubtedly the pinnacle of Liszt's song output, aptly fills the last of these eight sides and will probably be the most familiar of the songs recorded here, though the journey towards them includes other well known acquaintances: more or less literal echoes of Wagner's several waltzes and in "O Lieb, so lang du lieben kannst" a sung version of the perennial "Liebestraum".

It is not only here, of course, that the piano accompaniment is decisive, for a song comes to life precisely when the voice stops and the piano takes over, and though Fischer-Dieskau is quoted in the set's brochure as finding Liszt's songs "splendidly written for the voice," in fact the melodies often belong to the keyboard and travel less than readily to the larynx: the first Petrarch sonnet is a case in point.

Happily Daniel Barenboim is there to deal expertly with the warmth, the darkness and the strident passion of Liszt's piano writing, and at the same time to mute what is merely flashy. All his skills are demanded, and revealed in "Der traurige Mönch," the example of that awful genre of recitation with music, but there are other numbers too which quite properly become piano pieces with voice obligato. Nevertheless, the achievement of whole as a whole is to demonstrate Liszt's ability to take the private world of song into the public world of his own musicianship.

Lazarus, Schubert's only oratorio, finds its composer voyaging in the opposite direction, for, with the exception of one striking episode at the start of the second act, the dramatic subject of resurrection is dealt with in even-tempered reflection. The work is essentially a sequence of orchestral songs, many of them magnificent, and even though it is an oratorio like no other, one must regret that the 23-year-old Schubert suddenly abandoned it half way through. A few years ago Barenboim revived the torso in London, but apparently this is the first time it has been raised to the eternal life of the gramophone record. The performance is a good one, though French. The soloists are more cultivated, and Theodor Guschlbauer takes an unburied piece that warmly commends the work, and there is much beautiful singing from the soloists, especially from the English trio of Sheila Armstrong, Anthony Rolfe Johnson and Martin Hill. No-one curious about Schubert's work in an alien field will be disappointed.

On the other hand, nobody is likely to be thrilled with a recording of Dvorak's Requiem that also emanates from ORF. This is a piece that needs a lot of help, for though it contains some surprising things, like the pre-echoes of Janacek's Glagolice Mass, the forest woodwind, it humps on its back the huge handicap of a leitmotif that keeps bursting



Barenboim: achievement

on the scene with self-important dramatic gloom, and there are also passages that leave scope for one to recall Verdi's much sharper treatment of the same words. Sadly, only Teresa Zylis-Gara is moved here either to affection or to force: outside her solo the performance is routine and cannot replace the 12-year-old recording by Kertesz. Brahms's Requiem is of course a much more frequently recorded work, though not often brought to the heavenly height and splendour that Haitink attains. The tempo is slow, the tone lofty, Brucknerian, and the work becomes not a prayer for pity but an irrevocable statement of fact. This objectivity I find very appealing, most particularly in the second movement, and it does not make it impossible for Gustav Janowitz to float a rapturously phrased, exquisitely touching solo at the centre.

William Mann

Being there

Wagner: Der Ring des Nibelungen. G. Jones / H. Schwarz / Jung / McIntyre / Bayreuth Festival C & O/Boulez. Philips 6769 070 - 3 (four boxes plus book in case).

Wagner: Das Rheingold. Minton / Wenkel / Schreier / Ningsen / Adam / Dresden Staats Opera C & O / Janowski.

Wagner: Orchestral Excerpts from The Ring. BPO/Tennstedt. EMI digital ASD3985 (and cassette).

Another recorded set of The Ring? This one has a curious commercial validity of its own: it brings to your turntable the 1976 Bayreuth centenary Ring, the special feature of which was its spectacle, a scene placed in some setting quite unimagined, the characters capriciously dressed to span past and present, liberties taken wholesale, yet the total effect was both open and fresh.

Here, in a sort of a cardboard attic case, is the score track of that production, recorded live, with contributions from audience and stage floorboards. It is part of a commercial operation involving film, the enthralling production, which will shortly hit your television set. The case includes a hardback book overmuch concerned with Boulez-worship, also with copious, vivid photographs of almost every important scene in The Ring, and as filmed.

You can, if so desirous, listen to the records with the book open at the relevant scene, thus bringing the experience a step closer to a seat in the Bayreuth Festspielhaus: the effect will be more vivid after the film has been seen (and until the video cassette comes on the market).

In 1976 Boulez, as conductor of The Ring, seemed a paradox: a conductor of the playing was as sub-standard as the interpretation was incoherent. Two years later, Boulez was more evidently in command. By the time he recorded this huge score it was in his Bayreuth orchestra was playing it accurately his way, and his reading had acquired some character.

The descent of Wotan and Loge to Nibelheim is not only a physical climb down into the bowels of the earth, but an assault on another kingdom, predatory, even wasteful. The Entry of the Gods into Valhalla conveys a parody of stately procession. As the cycle progresses, the reading becomes more involved: not with the love of Siegmund and Sieglinde in Die Walküre, which is devoid of sexual

interest, even given Peter Hoffmann's robust young hero, nor with the final duel in Siegfried which finds Boulez accompanying no more than dutifully, and Gwyneth Jones's Brünnhilde at her least steady above the stage, until the very high notes, which are firm, accurate, and ringing.

Moments of formality, such as Gunther's introduction of his new bride to his house, are marked with theatricality and a suggestion of French grand opera style. Boulez is sound on the music's continuity, weak on its interior drama: he seems maddeningly concerned not to look beyond his own pose. Basic scenes are musically imagined, not brilliant nor vividly imaginative — Boulez loses points to Decca/Soli whenever a comparison is made about musical expressiveness.

He gains on the effortless clarity of the set's digital recording, but loses again on the Bayreuth account with hooded orchestral pit usually atmospheric, here just muffled. There are glorious climaxes in his performance, also passages with a coruscating orchestral lightness, such as after the Wanderers' exit in acts one and two of Siegfried. The Bayreuth cast includes Gwyneth Jones's Brünnhilde, a terrific, wondrous, on top of the world, wobbly around gear-changes at the top of the stage. Donald McIntyre's hard-bitten yet frustrated Wotan, the voice in frayed condition at the top of the character clearly in focus. Heinz Zednik's Loge and Mime are brilliant, even by current high standards.

Manfred Jung offers a convincingly boyish, but underpowered, vivid though never heroic Siegfried. Peter Hoffmann a splendid Siegmund. Matti Salminen as Fasolt, and Hermann Becht as Alberich (magnificent in his Curse on the Ring). Hans Schwarz as a troubled, not only vixenish Fricka, help to keep the drama always interesting, even when Boulez is merely controlling it.

The Festspielhaus, formerly regarded as a perfect recording studio, begins to show imperfections, in the age of digital stereo. The orchestra often sounds muffled, the voices indistinct (perhaps only when they stand off-mike).

The new Dresden Rheingold (also digital) provides an instant comparison. Marek Janowski's recording regularly outpaces Boulez on musical penetration and superior orchestral prowess, and his local orchestra plays more interestingly and expressively than the illustrious Bayreuth Ensemble for Boulez.

Hilary Finch

Larger than life

Richard Strauss: Alpine Symphony. Berlin Philharmonic / von Karajan. DG 2532 15.

Bruckner: Symphony No 8 / Te Deum. Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Chorus / Barenboim. DG 2741 007 (2 discs).
Mahler: Symphony No 5 / Bruckner: Symphony No 8 / Schwarzwald. DG 2707 128 (2 discs).
Bach: Sonatas and Partitas for solo violin. Gidon Kremer. Philips 6769 053 (3 discs). £75.95.

With its 20 horns, organ, thunder and wind machines, beechblowings, cowbells, and 22 subtitled sections, Richard Strauss's Alpine Symphony has made life complicated for itself. As difficult to take seriously as it is to perform live, the work leads itself to recording, where precisely tailored balancing and closer and repeated listening can reveal the structural strength and offer quite bold originality of detail in this vast symphonic poem.

Strauss felt himself to be composing here "as a cow gives milk" and wrote: "At last have learnt to orchestrate." And the achievement of Karajan's digital recording with the Berlin Philharmonic lies in revealing effects as native as the first movement's "trio", the whirling dance of the Scherzo, "charged with life" in Mahler's words, the stark, searing wind and brass writing, are all curiously underlaid and underplayed. Hanna Schwarz modulates her voice exquisitely to each shade of instrumental timbre in the Scherzo, while the remaining somewhat distant interpretatively from their poetry.

It takes a particular kind of virtuosity to recreate in one instrument the contrapuntal complexity and harmonic richness of Bach's solo violin sonatas without turning them into mere technical studies or virtuoso showpieces. Gidon Kremer has this talent; yet his performances may not prove widely appealing simply because he refuses ever to woe us by the beauty of sound, preferring to tease out the unpredictability and intellectual toughness of his unique works. The adagios of the Sonatas are sinewy, strenuous, uncompromising, the fugues tetchy with dry, aggressive double-stopping. Although in the presto movements one can almost see Mr Kremer dancing, as is his wont, around the microphone, he is surprisingly not brought that same spring of step to the less severe movements of the Partitas, making us perceive the pattern rather than feel the movement of the dance. But it is a set well worth possessing and includes the complete manuscript score of Bach's manuscript.

Television/Elkan Allan

The all-Limey show

For the first time ever, a British company has conceived, developed and sold a series specifically for an American network. The series is called Q.E.D., the network is CBS and the company is named Consolidated.

Wait a minute, you may be saying, we have been hearing for years about British successes on American television. Every Christmas, Lew Grade has been announcing sales figures longer than his cigars.

There are two important differences between these and Q.E.D. First, they are on either the Public Broadcasting System or an ad hoc collection of stations. Second, they all had the cushion of British television to fall back on, however blatantly mid-Atlantic the Grade products were, from The Saint to the Muppets, they were nominally British, a mortgage to the BBC. As for the BBC, it has long insisted that it makes programmes for British viewers and that the Americans can take them or leave them.

This is very different from the breakthrough achieved by Q.E.D. The series has been created and custom-built for the requirements of one of the three big American networks, the market-leader, and it happens that that network, where nine-tenths of American viewers watch, and where the big money is, it may well be shown here eventually, but no year and seen agreed or even negotiated.

Q.E.D. are the initials of Quentin Everard Deverell, a scientist from the mid-West who, despite a brilliant career at Harvard, decided to bite the bullet and move to the States to establish the United States that he packs his bags and comes to England. There he is faced with all kinds of problems, but his enormous ingenuity, amazing foresight, personal courage, quirky humour and a handsome young acolyte can solve.

The year is 1952. The case of his first research, the nabobs of American science and research is their mocking rejection of an invention he calls television (what, a little box bringing cinema pictures simultaneously with their happening into every parlour in the land? You're mad, man! Ha-ha-ha). And he is played by that marvellous actor, Sam Waterston, who was among the best things in The Great Gatsby, Oppenheimer and Heaven's Gate.

It is light-hearted, but not a sitcom. They are thrills and jeopardy. The sort of problem Q.E.D. has to solve is who is poisoning the sheep in Northern England? The answer is invariably a sinister organization, such as we used to see every week in The Avengers, and it is to this genre that the series belongs. His daring young assistant is played by another American, A. C. Weary, but almost everyone else in sight is a British character actor, carefully chosen to bring to the accent safely between the quaint and the incomprehensible.

It could be fun. It could be ghastly. Either way, it's sold and we must hope for a huge success, if only for the sake of the balance of payments. Thirty years ago the American wouldn't buy any British television, but now the head-bach of Robin Hood firmly mid-Atlantic. Twenty years ago they said nobody could understand the way we really spoke, then came the success of the Foreigner. Ten years ago, they said we could only originate quality drama and documentaries for highbrow outlets; then came the top-rating adaptations of Shakespeare and Son and the Death Us Do Part. Now they say our two forms of popular television are too far apart for us to make programmes for mass appeal, and here comes Q.E.D.

The men behind the series

are John Hawkesworth, who produced *Upstairs, Downstairs* another big PBS success; John Whitney, managing director of Capital Radio, the closest we have to American broadcasting in Britain; and John Pringle, a Jamaican, deeply devoted to the Mother Country, who has headed a major American advertising agency. They intended to call their company the Three Johns, with a logo of toilet seats, but chickened out.

Deciding they could capitalize on Hawkesworth's reputation in the United States they started with what Pringle calls "the point of sale", and jetted off to New York to talk to his contacts in CBS. For two years, they flew back and forth between Europe (Radio Luxembourg, needing products for its forthcoming satellite operation, bought 25 per cent of the stock). Manhattan and the West Coast, suggesting ideas, working up treatments, writing scripts, getting caught in the revolving doors of changing executives and interoffice rivalries; and, finally, last year, after a year and a half of time and money that no small independent company could afford and no television company would have the stamina for, received the go-ahead and \$1.4m for a pilot of Q.E.D.

They were still far from being home and solvent. The depressing fact is that for every 10,000 concepts submitted to the networks, only 1,000 are commissioned to go to script stage, only 100 get made into pilots, only 30 get on the air, and only 30 manage to survive into that El Dorado of a profitable third year and the honours of syndication. From then on, it's Cadillac and Rolls-Royces all the way, but what odds? Over 1500-1, and you are up against all the Hollywood people who have had past successes and know all the people and all the wrinkles.

"If I had understood two years ago what I have learned since the hard way, I doubt if I would have tried to begin," says Pringle. "What they want is something different yet not too different, hardly different at all, in fact, from what has been successful already. They made up their minds hundreds of times and there was no room for artistic inflexibility. Yet



Waterston: marvellous

we had to know when to say we wouldn't compromise — difficult when we had to admit that 75 per cent of their corrections resulted in improvements, certainly from their point of view. The network series game is no place for artists of pure integrity.

They still have a firm order only for six episodes, but the immediately enthusiastic response to the pilot gives them confidence that they will at least get an OK for the other seven to make up the statutory 13 of a normal first run. But when Q.E.D. goes on the CBS air as a mid-season replacement in March next year, a lot will be riding on these first Nielsen ratings. Cross your fingers for three Johns, for Sam Waterston and the mad professor. If they click, Britain will have a new export industry.

Television/Michael Ratcliffe

Pan's drop-out people

The American (Brad Davis) took off all his clothes to bathe in the sea but kept them on during sexual intercourse with the heroine, although she had, of course, removed all hers since she had been taking a shower when he climbed into the bathroom window. One or two rather peculiar things took place in Mrs Reinhardt, which opened the new "Playhouse" season on BBC 2, but then Mrs Reinhardt (Helen Mirren) was having a rather peculiar time. Her art dealer husband had taken up with a witless, young tart called Rita and, after a number of increasingly painful and violent scenes, Mrs Reinhardt had swept out of the house with the BMW and his mother's old necklace. Consulting her Michelin with evident skill, she made straight for a converted mill in Brittany, complete with dovecote, village pond and starred cuisine. The American erupted into this retreat like a summoned fantasy of Dionysos himself, talking dirty and drinking hard, just as the randiest and most dangerous of the blue lobsters disappeared from the tank in the hotel dining room. Symbolic, you see.

Edna O'Brien herself adapted one of her most novelistic short stories into a 75-minute play, removing from it what edge of irony it has ("all in all", Mrs R. partly reflects of the aforesaid Rita, "she was gamine"). For the middle-aged wife with a grown-up son in America and a determination to enjoy the sabbath in her own good time (that is by the end of the week) she substituted an attractive younger woman implausibly given to such daffy observations of her fellow creatures as "how lucky to be lucky" and "why can't I be like that?" The setting and framework were perfect, not just the Breton locations but the thoroughly convincing Frenchness of the natives led by an adoring patron (Jean Rougerie) and a Madame fanatical in the causes of respectability and haute cuisine (Nancy Nevins) — but it was impossible to believe in Mr Davis, a good actor who was made to talk like a character left over from the 1950s or in the helplessness of Miss Mirren, one of my favourite actresses, as a woman unable either to order herself a good French dinner or to resist a corny drop-out Pan.

THEATRES

SAVOY. 8.00-9.00. For the first time in the history of the theatre, the Savoy Theatre is presenting a production of the world-famous play, *The Mousetrap*, by J.B. Priestley. The production is directed by the famous actor, Sir John Gielgud. The cast includes the famous actress, Miss Margaret Rutherford. The production is a masterpiece of the theatre.

THEATRE ROYAL. 8.00-9.00. The Theatre Royal is presenting a production of the world-famous play, *The Mousetrap*, by J.B. Priestley. The production is directed by the famous actor, Sir John Gielgud. The cast includes the famous actress, Miss Margaret Rutherford. The production is a masterpiece of the theatre.

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CLASSIC & CHORUS. King's Rd. 8.00-9.00. The Classic & Chorus is presenting a production of the world-famous play, *The Mousetrap*, by J.B. Priestley. The production is directed by the famous actor, Sir John Gielgud. The cast includes the famous actress, Miss Margaret Rutherford. The production is a masterpiece of the theatre.

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Chess/Harry Golombek Play not politics

The world championship match between Karpov and Korchnoi is now in full swing and, while it is not provoking such world-wide interest as the contest between Bobby Fischer and Boris Spassky did at Reykjavik in 1972, it is probably at least as important and significant as the previous match between the two K's at Baguio City in the Philippines in 1978.

Nevertheless, important though the match will be, I have to confess that my interest in Merano, where the match is being played, is finally disenchanted with world championship matches. I ascribe the chief reason for this to something which has or should have nothing to do with chess. More and more such contests have tended to become political struggles and it has always been my experience that when politics come in through one window chess, true chess, flies out from the other.

We are supposed to be witnessing a contest between the world's two best players over the chessboard and are not concerned with the question whether communism, capitalism or any other ism is the best way of political life for the world.

Fifty years ago, indeed, I had not yet written or said all this. But the world's chess scene has been so contaminated and contaminated even the idealistic world of chess, alas, we are all, condemned to be like it or not. The Soviet block, officially at any rate, talk about the decadent and effete capitalist chess masters and we in the West tend to regard the Soviet masters as puppets of the Soviet state, controlled by the strings of state. The fact that there is an element of truth in both points of view does not help in any way to reconcile me to this extremely unpleasant state of affairs.

We chess enthusiasts can only try to play a game of both "houses" and consider content ourselves with the games of chess that are played in these matches. This is but small consolation for the inevitable loss in quality of the games. With their minds preoccupied with non-chess considerations the two great opponents can hardly be expected to produce the highest quality of chess.

It was along these lines that I was complaining to Robert Byrne, the American grandmaster who was reporting the match at Merano for the *New York Times*, when he pulled me up with a jolt by saying he profoundly disagreed with me.

Byrne's opinions on such matters must be respected, if only because he got as far as the quarter-finals of the Candidates' matches in the World Championship quality.

ing-series a few years back when he was beaten by Boris Spassky. He said that you could not judge world championship matches by the same criteria as you would tournaments. In matches the supreme element was that of struggle and in consequence you could hardly expect to see great games of flawless quality.

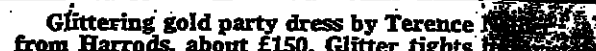
With much of this I was in agreement. The strain of intense struggle does have an effect on the quality of play in such matches. I remember that towards the end of the Botvinnik-Petrosian match at Moscow in 1963 when it was apparent that Botvinnik was losing, I remarked to grandmaster Alexander Kotov on the low quality of the chess played in the match. I was not alone in this criticism. In fact when I asked Petrosian whether he intended writing a book on the match he replied "No, the games are too bad". However, Kotov, who could not by any means have been classed as a friend and admirer of Botvinnik's, merely replied in irritated tones, "When there is a decent World Championship match, perhaps the 1954 one between Botvinnik and Smyslov that ended in a draw?"

All the same, later on, in 1972, there was the great match between Bobby Fischer and Boris Spassky in which Fischer produced at least three great games that will make the anthologies. But I doubt whether anything like this could be expected in the Karpov-Korchnoi contest. Their matches at Moscow and Baguio City did not produce a single masterpiece, and the present match has reached a new nadir as regards quality. The most interesting game so far has been the sixth, which the challenger won. But even in this he won and his opponent lost because both committed blunders. Here is, and the reader can judge for himself.

White: A. Karpov Black: V. Korchnoi Ruy Lopez

1. P-K4 P-K4 2. B-K3 P-K3 3. B-K3 P-K3 4. P-K3 P-K3 5. B-K3 P-K3 6. P-K4 P-K4 7. B-K3 P-K3 8. P-K3 P-K3 9. B-K3 P-K3 10. P-K4 P-K4 11. B-K3 P-K3 12. P-K3 P-K3 13. B-K3 P-K3 14. P-K4 P-K4 15. B-K3 P-K3 16. P-K3 P-K3 17. B-K3 P-K3 18. P-K4 P-K4 19. B-K3 P-K3 20. P-K3 P-K3 21. B-K3 P-K3 22. P-K4 P-K4 23. B-K3 P-K3 24. P-K3 P-K3 25. B-K3 P-K3 26. P-K4 P-K4 27. B-K3 P-K3 28. P-K3 P-K3 29. B-K3 P-K3 30. P-K4 P-K4 31. B-K3 P-K3 32. P-K3 P-K3 33. B-K3 P-K3 34. P-K4 P-K4 35. B-K3 P-K3 36. P-K3 P-K3 37. B-K3 P-K3 38. P-K4 P-K4 39. B-K3 P-K3 40. P-K3 P-K3 41. B-K3 P-K3 42. P-K4 P-K4 43. B-K3 P-K3 44. P-K3 P-K3 45. B-K3 P-K3 46. P-K4 P-K4 47. B-K3 P-K3 48. P-K3 P-K3 49. B-K3 P-K3 50. P-K4 P-K4 51. B-K3 P-K3 52. P-K3 P-K3 53. B-K3 P-K3 54. P-K4 P-K4 55. B-K3 P-K3 56. P-K3 P-K3 57. B-K3 P-K3 58. P-K4 P-K4 59. B-K3 P-K3 60. P-K3 P-K3 61. B-K3 P-K3 62. P-K4 P-K4 63. B-K3 P-K3 64. P-K3 P-K3 65. B-K3 P-K3 66. P-K4 P-K4 67. B-K3 P-K3 68. P-K3 P-K3 69. B-K3 P-K3 70. P-K4 P-K4 71. B-K3 P-K3 72. 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P-K4 P-K4 999. B-K3 P-K3 1000. P-K3 P-K3 1001. B-K3 P-K3 1002. P-K4 P-K4 1003. B-K3 P-K3 1004. P-K3 P-K3 1005. B-K3 P-K3 1006. P-K4 P-K4 1007. B-K3 P-K3 1008. P-K3 P-K3 1009. B-K3 P-K3 1010. P-K4 P-K4 1011. B-K3 P-K3 1012. P-K3 P-K3 1013. B-K3 P-K3

Christmas... and me



finish. The Panasonic
 ready assembled and
 equipped with
 controls for
 mobility.

There is no need
 to pull the video
 gun in order to
 insert the tape.

SGA, and JSA deep
 and 10cm high screen.
 Video zone 24in.
 high and 24in.
 high.

Deluxe version
 is fitted with 3
 optical colour
 camera and gives
 the video space.



from **£39.90** plus
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ACCESS/BARCLAYCARD
 20 Zenor Road Industrial Estate,
 Telephone: 01-873-3310

Please send me colour
 details for ordering.

Name _____
 Address _____
 Tel. _____

A black and white photograph of a family of six. A man and a woman stand in the back row, with a young child perched on the man's shoulders. In the front row, three children are smiling at the camera. The background is a simple wall with a framed picture.

Rachel wants

Christmas card competition

At the same time you should explain, in not more than 40 words, the reasons for your choice. These may include the impact of the card, its wit as well as visual, its parables, the clarity of its action, or any other artistic feature which you believe gives the card its outstanding appeal.

Times will present a cash prize of £100 to each of the three readers who submit the card which, in the judges' opinion, has the greatest artistic impact in the following price ranges: £150 to £250 for the top 250—together with the most convincing reasons for his or her choice.

Finally, *The Times* will donate, at £1,000 to the charity benefiting from the sale of the card which the judges

or purchasers submit the entry.

3. Each entry must be accompanied by a sheet of paper explaining, in not more than 40 words, the reasons why you think the card has an outstanding artistic merit.

4. No reader may submit more than one card in any one price range.

5. Two copies of the card must accompany each entry.

6. No employees of *Times Newspapers Ltd* or their families may enter the competition.

7. The judges' decision is final. Correspondence will be entered into.

Entries should be sent, clearly stating entrant's name and address, to the details shown in the Rules, to *The Times* (Dept CCCC), 12 Coley St, London WC6B 9YT.

Rules of entry

1. Any card submitted must have been sold this year on behalf of a nationally registered charity.
2. The price paid, date and place of purchase must be stated by the person submitting the entry.
3. Each entry must be accompanied by a sheet of paper explaining, in not more than 40 words, the reasons, why you consider the card to have outstanding artistic merit.

No reader may submit more than one card in any one price range.

2. Two copies of the card must accompany each entry.
6. No employees of Times Newspapers Ltd or their families may enter the competition.
7. The judges' decision is final. No correspondence will be entered.

Entries should be sent, clearly stating entrant's name and address, in addition to the details set out in the Rules, to The Times (Dept DCCC), 12 Coley St, London WC9B 9YT.



Remain calm. Personally, having gone off the whole idea of Christmas since I am no longer the recipient of a budding pillowcase, but the provider of six solid meals in three lackluster weeks. I have been a week thinking up Christmas avoidance techniques. Book a fare to St. Lucia in the Caribbean (\$390), that sort of thing. If it funds do not run to this and you are likely to be harassed, then you could book a last minute meal in a restaurant to give yourself a break. Take the family, or leave them behind. Cook your Christmas pudding, if you have not already one. These always improve with keeping. Book your Christmas tree, especially if you intend buying one with a root from a forest. If properly cared for, these can last a number of years. Buy a Christmas card shop for the cards you want to send or order cards if you intend having them printed. Look through your drawer of last year's cards and cut off all the ones you are not going to send to you one. This should reduce the total from a hundred or so down to more manageable proportions, say 50. Who can afford the postage on more? And talking of postage, if you have a lot of Christmas packages and Christmas cards must go off today to BFPO 162.

NIGHTSHIRTS
from **Charles Ross**
SLEEP WARM - IN STYLE
Super quality
100% heavyweight cotton
TRADITIONAL
NIGHT SLEEPERS
Africanian slippers,
breast, white
trousers, etc.
single white
trousers, from
front, breast pocket
etc.
Size 36 - 42 chest.
Size 42 - 48 chest.
Size 48 - 54 chest.
Size 54 - 60 chest
Size 60 - 66 chest
Size 66 - 72 chest
Size 72 - 78 chest
Size 78 - 84 chest
Size 84 - 90 chest
Size 90 - 96 chest
Size 96 - 102 chest
Size 102 - 108 chest
Size 108 - 114 chest
Size 114 - 120 chest
Size 120 - 126 chest
Size 126 - 132 chest
Size 132 - 138 chest
Size 138 - 144 chest
Size 144 - 150 chest
Size 150 - 156 chest
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No excuse now for Christmas martyrs

As an incurable present giver, from nonsense to important things, I find it hard not to be irritated by remarks of people who mean that, around December 10, they have done nothing about Christmas yet and that they hate the whole business.

Do they always leave it till the last minute to make martyrs of themselves? Is it a way of attracting attention? A received affection from some distant grown-up in childhood? An idea left over from times when presents could not be afforded till the Christmas bonus arrived? The number and range of today's shop catalogues ought to help even this year's most laggard giver.

The fun is fitting the person to the present, and that does take a bit of thought and time. To know anyone well enough to see what will please or amuse them is part of a real friendship.

The moments of shame when there was very little money and no chance of impressing anyone could usually be assuaged by remembering that no true friend, even family member, would like the giver to beggar themselves. Somewhere along the line I have a sneaking feeling that money spent on other people is not extravagance — only money spent on myself.

Catalogue shopping makes it easier to see what is around and make comparisons. This year's top catalogue, even called a magazine, is from Harrods. Free to account customers, it costs £1.25 on bookstalls and is a shrewd piece of marketing. Harrods got 'Comie West' (Vogue etc.) to work with them and the result is unashamed glossiness.

Probably not quite up to Neiman Marcus, of American

fame, but pretty splendid. Even what the advertisers show on their paid-for pages is on sale in the store. Harrods plan an edition for the spring to take another good chunk of advertising revenue.

Shops like Liberty, with all their expected treasures, the General Trading Company, even modest little shops like Treasure Island, in Fimlico, are all shouting their wares in the market place. So are the peddlers of hampers, of wine, of hand-made chocolates. Everyone begs for time to get the orders off in order that they arrive by December 24.

It takes time to clear cheques, to decipher names and addresses, to deal with paper work. Whether charitable or plain commercial mailings services need help. A few extra minutes spent checking dates, amounts, signatures and addresses (best use capital letters) should prevent orders going to the bottom of an in-tray until some harassed person has time to do a Sherlock Holmes job.

There is practically nothing that can't be given for Christmas. A tiny jewel from Grima or something amusing that doesn't cost a shilling's ransom is just as nice to receive. Successful presents for the young or my lists are torches with batteries, tickets to the Christmas lectures at the Royal Society, family games, even snakes and ladders.

New men want to be wowed with after-dinner or get yet another tie. Try a pot of Gendeman's Relish, peaches in some nectar, even a mechanical toy.

Presents to take to other people's parties can be anything from a box of crackers (now very expensive) to a fustful of sparklers or a set of genuine Happy Family cards.

Good present hunting.

Shoparound

by Diana Pollock

Beryl Downing is away

■ Night: Laura Ashley: Jewellery box (£10.75) ■ Treasure Island: Painted plaster city cats (£2.90 each), flowered ceramic rabbit candlestick (£3.20), white china Barmes elephant candlestick (£3.20) cat candlestick (£7) ■ Heals: Winter scene plate, from four seasons set (£9.95 each) ■ Harrods: Ceramic doves, filled with chocolates £15 ■ Elanham: Gendeman's breakfast kit of 10 bags of tough tea. One made with Scotch whisky and one made with vintage brandy (£1.95) ■ Janet Raper: crisp de chise pyjamas sizes 38 to 44 inches in five colours with contrasting piping (£195)



Department will send a free brochure for a stamped sse. Write to 68 Marylebone Lane, London W1.

The Dolls House Toys Ltd. The catalogue costs 70p plus sse from 116 Lissen Grove, London NW1 6LL.

Elanham will send a brochure for a stamped sse. Write to Elanham Quality Foods Ltd, Elanham, Bishop's Cleeve, Herts, CM22 6DT.

Elanham's catalogue costs £1 — refundable with first order. Write to 10 Regent Street, London SW1.

Elanham's catalogue costs £1 from 181 Piccadilly, London W1.

Galt toys make no charge for their catalogue. Write to James Galt & Co., Ltd., Brookfield Road, Cheshire, SK8 2PN.

The General Trading Company will send a free brochure for a self-addressed envelope from 144 Sloane Street, Sloane Square, SW1X 9BL.

Halcyon Days will send a catalogue for £1. Write to 14 Brook Street, London W1Y 1AA.

Harrods of Knightsbridge, SW1 charge £1.25 for their catalogue.

Heals make no charge for their catalogue. Write to 155 Tottenham Court Road, London W1.

Kaleidoscope's catalogue is in larger W. H. Smiths and is free of charge. Write to W. H. Smiths, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

Laura Ashley will send you any catalogue without charge from Box No. 1, Carro, Powys, Wales.

Liberty's of Regent Street, W1 charge £1 for their catalogue.

The Mustard Shop make no charge for their catalogue or postage. Write to 3 Bridewell Alley, Norwich NR2 1AQ.

Oxford's catalogue costs 20p from Marlock Road, Leicester, OX6 6PF.

James Reger charge £1.50 for her catalogue. Write to 12 New Bond Street, W1.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Freeport catalogue from The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire SG19 2DL.

Treasure Island's catalogue of general presents is free of charge, but send a stamped sse to 81 Fimlico Road, London SW1W 8PH.

Words of Wisdom will send a leaflet for a stamped sse. Write to Queen Charlotte Street, Windsor, Berkshire.

Design that is Trust-worthy

Next time anyone wails about the dismal state of British design point them in the direction of the National Trust. Over the past 10 years there is a success story of how good design can actually sell well.

Years for the basic idea came from Ray Hallett and his colleagues who felt it was awful for people to visit beautiful houses full of exquisite artefacts and be told off with kitchen mementoes at the sales counter.

Of course, it does help to have men of taste like Lord Gibson on the committee and such sources of inspiration as buildings in the Trust's care. Without a proper brief, no designer will be allowed to succeed and we all know those smug industrialists who hired designers in the past decade just to prove design doesn't pay.

"Don't know a thing about what sells. All airy fairy nonsense..." This is where Pat Albeck came in with her brand of enthusiasm, backed by skill and knowledge as a textile designer. That she loves working for the Trust comes through in everything she does for them.

"I feel passionately about the Trust," she said. "And please use the word 'passionate'. I also feel there is no separation between the worlds of art and commerce. Even the word 'commercial' (insults understood but not voiced) is being dropped from courses in colleges. Commercial Art is now called Graphics."

Though I do no teaching now there is still a lot of external assessing. More than 20 per cent of students are enormously talented. The next step is adapting that talent. It needs firing and burning. Even nurturing, as my own abilities were by men like Mild Sakers and Hans Judd." Pat Albeck takes one student a year to work with her and believes there is no question of lowering standards by providing what people like to see or enjoy owning.

"The seasons inspire me. So does contact with other worlds like the stage." (Her husband is Peter Rice, the stage designer).

"Peter's life brings me in contact with people I'd never meet otherwise". Their son Matthew, is to follow in his father's greatest steps and provides the stimulus from the next generation.

"Because Peter works at the Greenwich Theatre my designs for Maritime England Year have been marvellous fun. I'm doing a range

of objects for the Trust and the English Tourist Board is sponsoring the whole thing. Look out for tea towels, tin trays and other surprises in January."

Other artists contribute to the Trust's designs sold in their shops and through their remarkable catalogue. In fact, sales are so successful that the Trust has created a separate trading division. The National Trust (Exhibitions) Ltd., to cope with demand. Pat Albeck's latest annual tea towel calendar, a blue and white kitchen dresser, is a knock-out success. The first printing sold out in nine days.

Certainly this design policy should make others think hard about what goes into their own catalogues. It did take time for the locals around the country to think of using the Trust's designs.



Pat Albeck

their own present buying. There is no holding demand so...

In London, The Blewett School, Caxton Street, S.W.1 (01-222 0836) is open for Christmas sales and there is a list of all other shops in their Christmas Presents catalogue. Write to them at P.O. Box 101, Mellsbarn, Wilt, SN12 8EA.

A word of warning. Allow 28 days for goods to arrive from the date when orders reach Mellsbarn, for it is unlikely that orders received after December 1 will make it by Christmas.

Armchair shopping

It takes up to three weeks for the delivery of goods, so do send off for any catalogues that appeal to you immediately. In that way you can do your armchair Christmas shopping at leisure.

Aldrey features cards, figsaws and cut-out toys to name but a few. The catalogue is free from 24 St Charles Square, London W10 6EE.

Baskets with Love operates in London and the home counties. Open basket full of goodies — fruits, cakes, wines, flowers... To suit your needs or the

occasion. Send stamped sse for leaflet to 38 Lower Richmond Road, Mortlake, London SW14.

Crabtree & Evelyns have two catalogues, one on toiletries and the other on costumes. Both 50p from 6-8 Bond Street, London W1.

Colpeper specialise in herbs, scented candles and pot-pourri. Unusual catalogue obtainable from Colpeper Ltd, Hadstock Road, Linton, Cambs. Send stamped sse.

The Design Centre Please mark your envelope to the Mail Order Department, at The Design Centre, Haymarket, London SW1; send stamped sse.

Department will send a free brochure for a stamped sse. Write to 68 Marylebone Lane, London W1.

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Charity's own credit cards

As a way of earning money, the charitable Christmas has grown like Jack's bean into a giant plant, making something in the region of a £35,000,000 yearly profit for the charities. Most people already have their pet cause, and temporary shops, selling charity cards only, are opening up throughout the country.

If it seems hard on your ordinary little stationers they can't say much, for how can their personal need to pay the rent compare with the desperate case of famine among children in the third world?

In a way, the fact that charity Christmas means giving two presents for the price of one does produce a glow of self-satisfaction about the well-spent pound. It may even make us feel a little better about what we are not doing for people in distress during the rest of the year.

Since we were going to buy a present, send a card or calendar, anyhow, it's comfortable to know some of the money will save a whale, keep the goose happy at Slimbridge, immunise an African child against polio for life.

Most charities now have illustrated leaflets or Christmas catalogues. Some, like Oxfam, use theirs as a registered charity. It takes in the National Arts Collection Fund as well as Dr Bar-



Victoria & Albert Museum

demand for those ethnic things that give people in Bangladesh work all year round.

The Charity Christmas Card Council, founded in 1966 and growing ever since, is a co-operative organisation for a number of charities working together to cope with the whole business of getting cards to people. The idea of mail-order presents came later. It now has a leaflet listing 90 charities, with brief details of what each does, together with addresses.

The range is enormous, though all are registered charities. It takes in the National Arts Collection Fund as well as Dr Bar-

nardo's, Cancer Relief, and Cruse. Some of the names listed are part of the 1983 Group of 20 charities whose concern is about the physical and mental disabilities and other sad human problems.

For a list of the Group's Christmas card shops in London and the provinces send a large stamped sse to The Secretary, 1983 Group, 49 Lamb's Conduit Street, London WC1N 3NG.

This is also the address of the Charity Christmas Cards Council and their job is to send you, on receipt of a stamped sse, their leaflet with details of the 90 member charities. To receive a selection of the brochures and catalogues from this 90 send back the leaflet ticking up to ten of the charities of your choice.

For this the CCCC send the returned ticked list, a large envelope, 10 x 7 inches and four 11p stamps. Should you need both the CCCC list and the 1983 Group list you must send two sse envelopes in the first place.

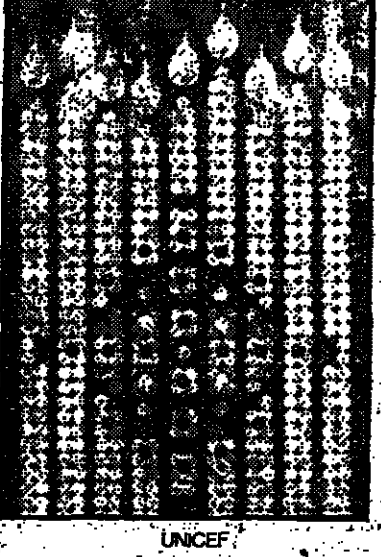
All charities feel so deeply about their own very good cause that they get quite upset should anyone doing any job leave out their name. Even the judgment of Solomon and a word in the ear from some recording angel would probably not be enough to weigh up the relative good done by any one purchase.

That the cost of administration in this country cuts down what the money can achieve is pretty sobering. Save the Children say that £1 will immunise a child for life against polio. £5 will feed an African child for three months, give it one blanket and all the medicines it may need during that

time. A mid-day meal in India is 5p, including the cost of running the delivery van. The average yearly wage in Bangladesh is only £49.

Help the Aged can make their money go far further in Africa. For £5 one eye is saved by cataract operation. For £10 bed eyes can be operated on and for £12 the necessary spectacles can be supplied. Who had a couple of parking tickets in London lately and would like to do that sum?

This charity evenly divides its resources between home and abroad. If they have £270 here they can supply a day centre with an electric sewing machine so their old people can make soft



UNICEF

toys, to be sold to help the aged help themselves.

A good many mail-order charity catalogues are offering what can be bought on the high street. The difference is that some of the purchase money will go to the good cause.

The museums are selling specially designed goods like cards from the Tate or the National Gallery, all reproductions of the lovely things in their own collections. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds have unlimited birds on tea-towels, scarves, aprons, jigsaws... World Wildlife specialise in endangered species and rare forms of life. UNICEF have their usual desk diary on the theme Father and Child this year — one photograph for each month, and from different lands.

The Stationery Office has printed a Gift Selection 1981-1982 for the Museums and Galleries of Great Britain. It is free from the museums themselves or from Museums & Galleries Gift Selection, Thorne Estate, North Eastern Road, Thorne, Doncaster, DN9 8AS. As a selected mail-order choice it really is very good. Toys from the Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, dinosaur models from the Natural History Museum, a reproduction of the century Viking brooch from the British Museum.

Our own selection of presents from registered charities offering this Christmas is small but ought to tempt those who are undecided about what to give and to whom. Because the standard has been improved so much both giving and receiving will be a pleasure.

Gardening/Roy Hay

Seeing you through thick and thin

At this season of lopping, chopping and pruning I grieve to think how many lovely and expensive secateurs are ruined because people have wrenched away with them at a branch far too thick for a secateur to tackle.

If you have a lot of pruning and lopping to do, it really pays to invest in a bowsaw for branches more than two inches in diameter. A heavy duty long handled pruner to deal with branches from half an inch to 2 inches diameter, and to use the secateurs for shoots no thicker than half an inch. In this way, properly used and cared for, these tools should last for many years.

Some firms such as Wilkinson and Burton McCall, the distributors of Felco pruners, offer a sharpening and general repair service, and information about these facilities is obtainable from most local stockists.

May and Baker have just put on the market a new compound for treating tree wounds — Seal and Heal. This is a latex based sealing compound designed to protect cut surfaces from disease and encourage rapid healing.

The Forestry Commission has carried out exhaustive tests with 25 genera of conifers and hardwood trees and says this compound, containing thiophanate-methyl, has been shown to be superior to other products on the market. So if you have cut surfaces on your tree branches of an inch or more diameter

you should perhaps give Seal and Heal a trial.

□ Now to a matter I have not touched on for some time but, with the frightening cost of fuel, I feel I should discuss again. It is accurate temperature control in a greenhouse or sun lounge/conservatory or for that matter in any part of the home where heating is controlled by thermostats.

Let us take a greenhouse heating, and for easy reckoning let us assume that to maintain 45°F night minimum temperature in a small greenhouse with electric or other fuel costs £20 a year; it will cost £40 to keep it at 50°F and almost double that amount to keep it at 55°F.

Thermostats are notoriously hit and miss. Some are unreliable and can be several degrees out, and even the most efficient have to be checked for several nights to be sure they are controlling the heat at exactly the desired temperature. The dial on a thermostat is normally only a guide, not a precision instrument. Its performance should be checked against a reliable maximum-minimum thermometer which is accurate to within plus or minus one degree Fahrenheit. If you have a thermostat which you think, after checking, is keeping the heat in your greenhouse at 45°F, at a cost of, say, £20 per year when in fact it is keeping it at 48°F, those three degrees will cost you an extra £12 a year — £4 for every degree between 45 and 50°F.

So it pays to buy a good thermometer. Dimplex of P.O. Box 172, Watford, Herts, have just launched their Energy Saver, a new maximum-minimum model calibrated for the middle range of temperatures 0-40° (32 to 100°F) and they claim it is accurate at 20°C to plus or minus quarter of a degree C.

Considering the amount it could save you over the years, it is well worth the £6.90 it costs in a garden or hardwear shop (or in case of difficulty direct from Dimplex).

One more thought about the correct use of thermometers in a greenhouse or conservatory. Choose a shaded and protected position where the air circulates freely but away from draughts or abnormally warm spots — ie, near a door or ventilator or too near a heater.

Similar recommendations apply, of course, to a thermometer placed outside.

Jobs for November

Try whenever the weather and soil conditions permit to clear up the debris of summer crops, consigning spent annual plants and the cut down stems of herbaceous plants to the compost heap. Sweep or rake up leaves once a week from lawns and do not let them lie over rock garden plants for more than a week. They cause much damage.

If the lawn needs attention, and most lawns this year are rather unhappy, including your own, deal with it now.

Worms have been very active and if their casts are really too much to deal with by sweeping them off, apply a worm killer to prevent them being a worse menace next year. Personally I don't worry about a reasonable worm population — we have a least cast without much effort on my part. They can be swept off with a broom of course. The important point is that they are not trodden or rolled into the lawn because bare weed or moss infested patches will surely follow.

In southern parts it is still possible to sow grass seed to cover bare patches or to thicken up thin areas of turf.

Later this month, if we get really cold weather, the birds will suddenly descend on the buds of our fruit trees and shrubs, also our flowering trees and shrubs. A pair of finches can strip a plum tree of buds in a day — I know, they stripped all my plum trees in 1982 and many other trees and shrubs as well. Spray any trees or shrubs likely to attract the birds for buds — or berries with "Staroff".

Buy enough to repeat the spray if necessary in the new year, also to spray crocuses, primroses and polyanthus. If you grow these, your sparrows will tell all their pals to come and partake of your hospitality.

Will the anti-pudding lobby please refrain from reading this column today. It is all about the kind of extraordinarily delicious desserts that are nutritionally quite unnecessary and therefore irresistible to those afflicted with a sweet tooth.

Of course there are people who don't like puddings, as well as many more who have persuaded themselves not to eat them, most of the time, on grounds of kindness to their outlines rather than their teeth. But it is twisting logic to turn such self-inflicted restraint into an argument that puddings are immoral.

Self denial, if it applies to puddings at all, is better reserved for the gluttony that eats and, perhaps, for the restraint of the decoration. Blowzy creations festooned with blobs of cream lack style, don't you think?

None of this week's recipes looks particularly lavish, but they taste good. Chocolate roulade looks like a Swiss roll but the texture is quite different. It has a crisp crumbly coating and moist cake and cream centre. Creme brulee is a classic dinner party pudding. Its success, I think, depends on the childish delight each of us takes in bashing through the brittle coat of caramel to get at the creamy custard underneath. Classic jelly is festive looking and not too filling.

Chocolate roulade Serves eight or more

The Times Cook/Shona Crawford Poole For pudding lovers only

3 large eggs, separated
170g (6oz) caster sugar
450ml (¾ pint) double cream
2 tablespoons brandy
30g (1oz) plain flour
45g (1½oz) cocoa
¼ teaspoon salt
55g (2oz) granulated sugar

Combine the egg yolks with half the caster sugar and whisk until the mixture is pale and light. In another bowl, whip 120ml (4 fl oz) of the cream until it is thick, then beat in the brandy. In yet another bowl, whisk the egg whites until frothy. Add the remaining caster sugar and whisk to a firm meringue. Combine the meringue with the egg yolk and cream mixtures and fold lightly to mix. Sift together the flour, cocoa and salt, and fold this into the egg mixture.

Spoon the mixture into a large Swiss-roll tray which has been well oiled. Sprinkle the top with the granulated sugar and bake in a preheated cool oven (150°C/300°F, gas mark 2) for about 30 minutes, or until the top is firm. Cool the roulade in its tin and fill it as soon as it has cooled.

Whip the remaining cream until it is firm, adding a little brandy or orange liqueur if you like. Turn the roulade out of its tin on to a sheet of greaseproof paper. Spread it evenly with the cream, and using the paper to help roll it, roll up tightly. Chill well before serving.

Chocolate roulade Serves eight or more

made the day before it is to be eaten, and it freezes well.
Creme brulee Serves eight
4 eggs
2 tablespoons caster sugar
600ml (1 pint) double cream
1 vanilla pod, or ¼ teaspoon vanilla essence
8 tablespoons demerara sugar

Combine the egg yolks and caster sugar and whisk until the mixture is pale and fluffy. Put the cream in a pan with the vanilla pod (wash and dry the pod, which will live to serve another day). If using vanilla essence add it after the cream has boiled and cooled a little.

Whisk the cream into the egg mixture. Return the custard to it through a fine sieve. Heat gently, stirring continuously — do not allow the mixture to boil — until it will coat the back of a wooden spoon.

Pour the custard into eight or more small ramekins or custard pots, filling them almost to the brim. Stand the dishes in a tin and pour in boiling water to come half way up their sides. Bake the custards in a very cool oven (120°C/250°F, gas mark ¼) for about 40 minutes, or until they have set firm.

Allow them to cool, then chill them for at least four hours.

To caramelize the tops, remove the grill pan from the

grill, and make sure the grill is very hot. Take the ramekins out of the pan and fill the pan with ice. Set the chilled custards on the ice and sprinkle them with the demerara sugar. Cook quickly under the grill until the tops are golden and bubbling. Cool them quickly and chill again before serving.

The custards may be made the day before serving, but the caramel topping will dissolve if it is made too far ahead.

Claret jelly Serves four to six

Peared zest and juice of 1 lemon
2 Sachets powdered gelatin
1 bottle drinkable claret
110g (4 oz) sugar
10 cm (4 inch) stick cinnamon
2 cloves

Put the gelatin in a saucepan with the lemon zest and four tablespoons water. Leave it to soften.

Heat the claret slowly, add the sugar, lemon zest, cinnamon and cloves, but do not allow it to boil. Add the softened gelatin and stir together until the gelatin is melted completely. Strain the mixture through a fine sieve into a wetted jelly mould. Leave it to set for 4 hours. Unmould the jelly and cut it on a candle tin table. lightly whipped cream, separate bowl.

Petrol price likely to rise by 3p a gallon

By Clive Cookson

The price of North Sea crude oil is likely to rise from the present \$35 to \$36.50 or \$37 a barrel after Thursday's agreement by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries for a new benchmark price for oil. For the motorist, the probable effect will be an extra three or four pence a gallon.

Early next week, the British National Oil Corporation (NOC), which sets the North Sea price, will send telegrams to all companies operating there, suggesting a new figure. It is expected to be \$35.50 or \$36 above the new Opec price of \$34, but below the \$38 which Opec's North African members have been offering since Thursday's agreement.

Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Oil Minister, was concerned yesterday to downplay the move, but Mr Walter Kirsten, managing director of BP Oil International, said in London that he thought the new Opec price was too high to stick under present market conditions. Producing countries might have to offer hidden discounts to sell their oil.

Mr Kirsten, whose company is the trading arm of British Petroleum, said a sensible market price for North Sea crude would be \$34.50, although customers could not expect this if they were to be offered the new Opec price. The North Sea oil commands a premium because of its convenient location and superior quality.

Although marketing executives of the leading integrated oil companies want to keep the North Sea price as low as possible, because their refineries are likely to be backdated to this weekend.

The effect at the pump will not become clear until the new North Sea price is agreed. But the companies say that an extra three or four pence a gallon across all refined oil products would be needed if the price rises by \$1.50 or \$2 per barrel.

Saudis cut oil output to hold new prices

From Michael Prest, Geneva, Oct 30

Saudi Arabia said today that it is to cut oil production to 8.5 million barrels a day from 9.3 million, a move designed to underpin the first Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries unified price structure for 24 years. The reduction was widely expected, even before the move, as Saudi production was running at 10 million barrels.

Announcing the decision, Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi petroleum minister, warned other Opec members that reinstating 8.5 million barrels a day did not mean that the kingdom would refrain from producing more or less, but perhaps as little as 7 million barrels if the agreement reached on Thursday is threatened.

This was a reminder that it was the increase in Saudi production to 9.3 million barrels which was a major factor forcing them to accept price cuts as part of the agreement. According to Opec sources, the average weighted Opec price will consequently go up by less than 50 cents a barrel.

Shaikh Yamani also said that the kingdom's \$2 increase to \$34 a barrel as part of the agreement will be retrospective from October 1. Backdating the price was interpreted by industry sources in Geneva as an attempt to dull criticism of the otherwise controversial Opec price cuts.

Although Shaikh Yamani and his government clearly want Thursday's agreement on differential prices to hold, the Saudis believe that the 1980s will not see the sharp price fluctuations of the previous decade.

The Saudi strategy appears to be to encourage sales of high North African crude in the expectation that higher production will bring the price down even more. But the kingdom may adjust its production to make sure that its heavy crude, whose prices may also be adjusted under the agreement, will stay competitive.

Behind the Saudi argument is the belief that the oil market will recover. The Saudis believe oil companies will run down stocks to meet winter demand, then rebuild in the spring. Shaikh Yamani, therefore, expects the present glut to be over by the end of the second quarter of next year.

Looking further ahead, the Saudis believe that the 1980s will not see the sharp price fluctuations of the previous decade.

Mobil bids \$3,400m to control Marathon

By Our Financial Staff

Mobil Corporation, one of the world's largest oil groups, yesterday launched a \$3,400m (£2,224m) bid for control of Marathon Oil Company of the United States.

Mr Rawleigh Warner Jr, chairman of Mobil, said in New York that Mobil had started a cash tender offer for the common shares of Marathon Oil at \$85 a share. Dealings in Marathon's shares were halted at 10.30 a.m.

The offer is for the purchase of up to 40 million shares, about two-thirds of the outstanding shares of Marathon, and is conditional on a minimum of 30 million shares, a majority of the total being tendered.

A statement added that if Mobil acquired at least 30 million shares, it would immediately intend to acquire the remaining shares of Marathon as promptly as practicable through a merger, an exchange offer or a buyout.

Mr Warner had no immediate comment on the bid.

Mobil's bid ranks among the largest seen in the last two years in the United States where leading oil companies have been actively buying up other companies.

The date for the offer is midnight New York time November 11. The withdrawal deadline is November 22 and the offer will expire at 11.59 p.m. on December 1 unless extended.

Wall Street analysts said Mobil's bid should encounter only minor antitrust obstacles. During the takeover process, Marathon and other bidders before the dust has settled.

They said Marathon's "hard" value, based on its large domestic oil and gas reserves, is between \$180 and \$200 a share and that a takeover price for Marathon would be closer to \$120 to \$140 a share.

In recent months Mobil, the third largest American oil company, was frustrated in a bid battle for Conoco, which was acquired by the Du Pont chemicals group.



National Westminster staff trying to cope with the mass of C & W share applications

Scramble for C & W shares

By Our Financial Staff

Not so, apparently, in other parts of the country. On the streets of 10.30 a.m. the doors closed and National Westminster says no one was turned away.

Extra staff have been called for the weekend count. By Monday morning National Westminster should be able to announce the results of the Government's largest partial nationalization move since it took office.

The queues passed in "gentlemanly" fashion one observer said. He commended the way the National Westminster had avoided a crush by allowing people to pass by the counters, and through the room, going straight out as the other end.

The public matched their eagerness with their nerves yesterday to let the Cable & Wireless shares offer take off in spectacular style. It is estimated that the £224m flotation was at least five times oversubscribed, so attracting more than £1,000m of public money.

Draper's Gardens tower, the home of National Westminster's new issues department, was the scene of good-humoured queues from 7.30 a.m. onwards. So the bank opened the doors half an hour early to meet the crowd, application forms clutched firmly to their sides.

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Higher oil prices boost for sterling

By John Whitmore
Financial Correspondent

The prospect of a rise in the price of North Sea oil and a further easing in American interest rates have paved the way for a strong boost on foreign exchange markets yesterday.

Sterling rose 2.8 cents against the dollar to close at \$1.86, a gain of 83 cents since Monday's close and the best level it has seen for almost three weeks.

The pound's recovery this week, bringing in its wake some easing in short-term interest rates, should come as a relief to the Government. For the present, at least, the pressure on the clearing banks to push their lending rates back up to 16 per cent seems to have receded.

Interest rates on very short term money fluctuated as the banking system tried to work out how much money was being pushed into share applications for Cable & Wireless, but period rates continued to ease.

The average rate of discount at which Treasury bills were allotted at the weekly tender slipped back from 15.95 to 15.86 per cent.

On Wall Street the Dow Jones industrial average closed 19.60 points up at 832.75, the largest daily gain since January 5. The market was boosted by speculation that interest rates will soon ease.

The Federal Reserve Board approved a reduction in the basic discount rate to 13 per cent from 14 per cent from Monday. No change was made in the 2 per cent surcharge that applies to large frequent borrowers.

The United States basic money supply M1B rose to a seasonally adjusted average of \$434.90m in the week ended October 21 from \$433.30m the previous week.

Building slump brings UBM's first loss

By Margaret Pagano

UBM, Britain's second largest builders' merchant group, reported its first-ever loss yesterday, highlighting the slump in the construction industry. One year ago, the Bristol-based group made pretax profits of £12.2m and last year it made £2.7m.

The group lost £831,000 in the six months to August compared with pretax profits of £2.3m in the same period last year. But losses were not as great as feared and the market marked the shares 51p above the year's low at 52p. Shareholders, however, which include Equity Capital for Industry with a 10.7 per cent stake, had their half-year dividend halved to 1.42p.

Deterioration in profit margins due to tight pricing by competitors and collapsed demand are blamed for the £831,000 loss in the builders' merchant division. Merchandising, which operates on a day-to-day basis and traditionally provides the bulk of profits, made £2m in the six months to August. All the group's other activities, covering scaffolding, glass, motor distribution and overseas concerns, remained profitable.

Sales in builders' merchant supplies rose by just £500,000 to £23.8m, reflecting a 3.5 per cent drop in volume over the same period last year, but a 2.2 per cent rise over last year's second half.

Total sales held steady at £19.18m, where trading profits of £696,000 against £3.5m were depressed to losses by £180,000. Charges of £708,000 and rent of £819,000.

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S Pearson drops case against NEB

By Drew Johnston

S. Pearson and Son, the industrial, financial and publishing group, has decided not to go ahead with its claim against the National Enterprise Board, over the sale of Fairley Holdings, the engineering group, to Royal Doulton, its wholly-owned subsidiary.

Pearson earlier instructed Deloitte Haskins & Sells, its auditors, and D. J. Preston, its solicitors, to report on any claims it might have arising from the acquisition. Fairley Holdings forecasts a £5m profit for the year to 1981. That was then reduced to £4m but in the event, Fairley reported a loss of £2.8m for 1980.

On receiving the accountant's report, Pearson has decided to take no further action. A statement from the Pearson directors said Fairley was now trading profitably and had orders worth £50m in the first nine months of the year, compared with orders of only £25m in the whole of 1980.

Government to look at ICL cash needs

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

The Government is to review the finances of ICL, the British computer company, within the next two weeks, seven months after underwriting a £200m two-year loan to the company.

Since April a new management team has taken control and arrangements for collaboration have been made with the Three Rivers Computer Corporation of America, Mitel of Canada and Fujitsu of Japan. Questions have been raised about the rate of growth at ICL and the level of finance that may be necessary to support the company.

Mr Christopher Laidlaw, ICL's chairman, yesterday commented on press reports that the Japanese authorities had asked for financial guarantees of £100m before implementing the Fujitsu deal. Under the agreement ICL would have access to the latest Japanese microchip technology and would sell Fujitsu machines in Europe under licence as ICL machines, in direct competition with IBM.

"One of the means open to ICL to finance its purchase under the Fujitsu collaboration is Japanese Export/Import Bank credit," Mr Laidlaw said. "The Department of Industry said yesterday that so far no British company had been financed by the Japanese Export Bank. It added, however, that it would look into the Japanese loan procedure."

Long service pay scheme for builders

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Building industry employers are to grant a "golden handshake" to workers who retire after a lifetime in the trade. Lump sums of as much as £3,500 will be available to building and civil engineering workers after a six-year running-in period in a scheme funded by employers to benefit long-service employees.

Mr Les Wood, general secretary of the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians, said last night: "This agreement is a milestone along the road towards decasualization. It is a breakthrough for men who spend their full working lives in construction."

Under the deal, which comes into effect next April, employers will contribute 20p a week for each worker as a surcharge on the existing holiday stamp arrangement, and workers who have worked for more than 200 weeks in construction will be entitled to a lump sum on their 55th birthday.

By using surplus funds of the existing holiday scheme, as much as £364 will be paid to retiring workers who satisfy conditions from the outset of the scheme, but it will be six years before it becomes fully operational.

National Savings rate raised again

By Lorna Bourke

The National Savings Bank investment account rate is to be up by 0.5 per cent to 15 per cent from December 1. The rise comes only a month after the rate was increased from 13 per cent to 14.5 per cent, in take effect from Monday.

National Savings claims that the move is simply to bring the return on the NSB account into line with competing offers, but yesterday's increase is likely to be regarded by the building societies as interest rate "leapfrogging". The equivalent return from a building society ordinary account is 13.9 per cent.

The flow of cash into the societies fell substantially during the third quarter of 1981, from £1,033m to £888m, and this has been reflected in a drop in the amount of money promised to home buyers.

Net new commitments fell from £3,261m to £2,941m during the quarter, although overall lending for the year is expected to be a record £12,000m.

The National Savings rate increase is seen as part of the Government's plan to raise £3,300m from personal savers by the end of the 1981-82 fiscal year.

Savings war, page 18

Stock Markets

FT Index 468.5 up 0.8
FT 100 61.16 up 0.15
FT All Share 286.30 up
Bargains 13,054

■ Sterling
\$1.8600 up 280 pts
Index 88.7 up 0.2
New York: \$1.8805

■ Dollar
Index 108.8 down 0.6
DM 2.2470 down 240 pts

■ Gold
\$428 up \$4
New York: \$428.00

■ Money
3 mth sterling 15 1/4-16 1/4
3 mth Euro \$15 1/4-15 1/2
6 mth Euro \$15 1/4-15 1/2

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Amal Metal 10p to 560p
BP 8p to 308p
Baggeridge Brk 8p to 89p
Bentley 10p to 140p
Burgess Prod 6p to 45p
CUS " " 7p to 395p
Hinton A 10p to 494p
Lamin 6p to 176p
Polly Peck 12p to 336p
Shell Trans 18p to 382p
Tricentrol 12p to 258p
UBM Group 31p to 52p
Union Discount 15p to 418p
Yarrow 10p to 250p

Falls

Aero & Gen 10p to 225p
Allen H & Ross 5p to 265p
Bovater 7p to 192p
Borthwick T 5p to 16p
Davies & Nwan 12p to 268p
Hanson Trust 12p to 357p
Legal & Gen 10p to 110p
Murray-Fert 8p to 315p
Nassau B. P. 10p to 378p
Ranger Oil 15p to 421p
Refuge Ass 4p to 225p
Verrenging Ref 24p to 400p

US economy 'rethink'

Mr Donald Regan, the United States Treasury Secretary, said the current United States recession meant that President Reagan's goal of a balanced budget in 1984 was unlikely to be met, and that the Administration was revising its economic outlook.

In the gloomiest Administration comment on prospects for balancing the budget in 1984, Mr Regan said: "It is possible, but not probable."

Mr Regan told the Senate Budget Committee that he believed the recession would be mild and end by next March or April.

But because of the recession, the Administration was revising its economic forecasts and might have been available in the next few days, he said.

Paribas in suit threat

The French Government plans to sue certain officials and clients of Paribas, the French private bank listed for nationalization, on charges of illegally transferring gold and currency out of the country, according to M Laurent Fabius, budget minister.

He said bank officials would be charged with transferring \$5,000 pieces of gold worth £720,000 to Canada in 1980 for a client. The other charges involve transferring currency to Switzerland for several clients, many of whom were aware of the situation.

Meanwhile, Paribas yesterday lost control of Cobeco, its Belgian subsidiary, its 59.6 per cent shareholding was reduced by about 10 per cent.

Anglo-American Corporation of South Africa holds 2 per cent of the equity of Paribas and not 20 per cent as reported yesterday.

Japan talks on trade surpluses

Japan will consider emergency measures to reduce its huge trade surplus with the United States and Western Europe, Mr Michio Watanabe, the finance minister, said yesterday.

An special cabinet meeting, led by Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Prime Minister, will meet early next month to discuss boosting imports to dampen trade friction.

Sources at the Economic Planning Agency said Japan should make about \$5,000m (£2,700m) of emergency imports. Japan's current account surplus in the financial year ending in March might rise to between \$12,000m and \$13,000m unless action was taken, Mr Watanabe said.

Swiss see no recession

The Swiss economy is not expected to go through a recession in 1982, the Institute for economic research of the Federal College of Science and Technology in Zurich said.

The institute said 1982 would be a difficult year, but a considerable easing of the tight labour market is not expected to lead to a sharp reduction of employment.

The stagnation of overall exports seen recently will continue, but there will probably be no real setback, the institute said.

Court backs Krupp steel

The European Court of Justice has ruled in favour of Krupp Stahl in a dispute over steel quotas imposed by the European Commission for the last quarter of 1980.

However, the court upheld the quotas set for the first quarter of 1981.

The court accepted the steel production capacity had increased by 15 per cent in 1980 because of the opening of a new pre-heating plant. The Commission had estimated this increase at 9.5 per cent.

However, the court rejected the company's argument for higher quotas in the first three months of this year.

EEC ministers meet in London

Finance ministers of the 10 EEC countries met in London yesterday for the start of two days of informal talks. The discussions, under the chairmanship of Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, are likely to touch on reform of the Community budget and the general economic and monetary situation, both in Europe and abroad.

Montedison sale suspension

Montedison has announced the temporary suspension of sales in Italy and abroad of its low-density polyethylene, for which its subsidiary Montepolimeri has an annual production capacity of 430,000 tonnes. It did so to help stabilize a market which for many months has been characterized by a foolish waste of resources by the entire plastics manufacturing industry.

New biotech directorate

The Science and Engineering Research Council is setting up a new biotechnology directorate, in cooperation with the Department of Industry which has Dr Duncan Davies (right) as its chief scientist.

The new directorate will promote research and training in all areas related to biotechnology, and will be headed by Dr Davies.

SERC at present spends £10m a year on biotechnology, defined as "the application of biological organisms, systems or processes to manufacturing and service industries." Dr Geoff Potter, head of the new directorate, expects spending to exceed £225m by 1983-84.

Alexander Kielland refusal

The Norwegian Government has refused to finance a new attempt to right the Alexander L. Kielland, the offshore platform which capsized during a storm in March 1980 with the loss of 123 lives.

The rig, now moored upside-down at Stavanger, is expected to be sunk in a west coast fjord. The bodies of 36 of the victims are believed to be still inside the rig.

The loss of the floating hotel rig will cost Norwegian and foreign insurance companies an estimated \$65m. The rig, owned by Stavanger Drilling Co. of Norway, had been operated by Phillips Petroleum in the Ekofisk area of the Norwegian North Sea.

Helicopter Service, the Norwegian company that serves the North Sea oil rigs, has bought 10 helicopters from Aerospatiale of France for about \$60m.

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AEG-Telefunken hopeful

AEG-Telefunken, the financially-troubled West German electrical group, expects to be able to break even and improve its financial structure this year as a result of help from its banks and the sale of assets to companies that will join it in cooperation deals.

It disclosed today that its consortium of 24 banks was prepared to play a substantial role in restructuring the company and that this willingness, together with the plans to cooperate with other concerns, constituted an important step towards putting the group back on its feet.

Today's meeting between AEG and its bankers was the second in a week. Although the company said that the group was very pleased with the outcome, the brief statement gave no details of the support that the banks would be giving to the company.

First National Securities

Base rate

First National Securities Limited announces that with effect from 1st November 1981 its base rate for lending will be 18%.

First National Securities Ltd., First National House, College Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 1FB. Telephone: 01-861 1313.

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

New higher rates of National Insurance Contributions are due to be announced soon and there is much speculation about the size of the increase. With rises in retirement pensions and other social security benefits coming along in a few weeks time and the likelihood is that next April's increase will be large.

Contributions are related to earnings and this means that higher earners will be hit hardest. What will effect them most is the new top earnings figure on which maximum contributions are calculated. At present this is £200 a week (£10,400 a year).

Maximum contributions could rise from £15.50 a week to £17.50 or £18.

By law the upper earnings figure must be set at between 6% and 7% times the amount of the weekly lower earnings limit, below which no contributions are paid. In turn, this limit corresponds roughly with the rate of a single retirement pension.

Next April the retirement pension will be £29.60 a week. Rounding the figures, a reasonable guess at the new lower limit would be £30 a week, giving a new upper limit of £225 (or £11,700 a year).

National insurance contributions are (for those not in

National Insurance

Large rises on way

approved occupational pension schemes) at present 7.75 per cent of all earnings up to the limit. The present maximum contribution is £15.50 a week. Based on the projected new upper limit it would rise to about £17.50.

Under this arrangement only people at present earning more than £10,400 a year would have to pay more. But it must be debatable whether this alone would bring in enough extra contribution income to meet the continuing heavy demand for benefits. The indications are that the percentage rate is going to have to go up as well.

If this happens, then everyone will be affected. For example, a quarter per cent increase, bringing the contribution rate to eight per cent, would mean small increases for lower earners, too — 25p for someone on £100 a week. At the higher earnings levels,

Savings

More shots in the savings war

Just one month after the last increase National Savings has announced a further rise in the rate paid on its NSB Investment Account, due to go up from 14.5 per cent to 15 per cent from December 1.

The last increase, which came into effect on Monday, was a much more dramatic readjustment — a 1.5 per cent rise from 13 per cent to 14.5 per cent. National Savings describes yesterday's fairly modest increase as "fine tuning" — or more realistically an attempt to keep just ahead of the building societies.

Non-taxpayers — children and the elderly — will benefit most from these new higher rates. Those who pay little or no tax will find that only the money funds, Tyndall and Simco, and local authority "yearling" bonds, which this week offered over 16 per cent, can begin to compete.

Rarely a day goes by without some change on the part of the various competing array of products all competing for personal savers cash is confusing.

For basic taxpayers, index-linked certificates, which look the best bet so long as you don't mind having your money tied up for at least a year, the minimum period needed to earn the index-linked increases.

But if you want money readily available, the building societies still look the most attractive home for cash. Although the new recommended rate is only 9.75 per cent net of basic rate tax, compared with an equivalent of 10.5 per cent after tax from the NSB investment account, most societies are offering extra interest accounts which come in all shapes and sizes. The choice is quite bewildering.

Rates all go up from Monday and it is worth shopping around to see what's on offer. Many smaller societies pay rates above the Building Societies Association recommended rate for money on ordinary accounts. Add to this the higher return from "extra interest" accounts and the returns from some societies are quite remarkable.

Building society investment rates go up on Monday and it is worth shopping around to see what's on offer. Many smaller societies pay rates above the Building Societies Association recommended rate for money on ordinary accounts, and there are dozens of extra interest schemes available.

Rates of up to 11.5 per cent net of basic rate tax are available from some societies, with no penalties and withdrawal on demand. Apart from the inconvenience of having to conduct trans-

Savings

More shots in the savings war

actions by post, it is difficult to see why anyone who is purely a saver, puts his money with the larger societies.

The smaller societies do, of course, charge extra for their home loans as if you are likely to want a mortgage, it pays to build up a track record with one of the larger societies which do not charge higher rates.

Investors' reservations about putting money into smaller societies usually hinge on security. But it is inconceivable that the Building Societies Association would let a small society go under — and in any case, they are all closely monitored by the Registrar of Friendly Societies.

Extra interest accounts which place some constraints on withdrawals are sprouting like mushrooms and there is a wide range to choose from. Be sure to ask about withdrawal penalties as these can sometimes be stiff. And with some of the accounts it is impossible to withdraw any money at all without suffering some loss of interest.

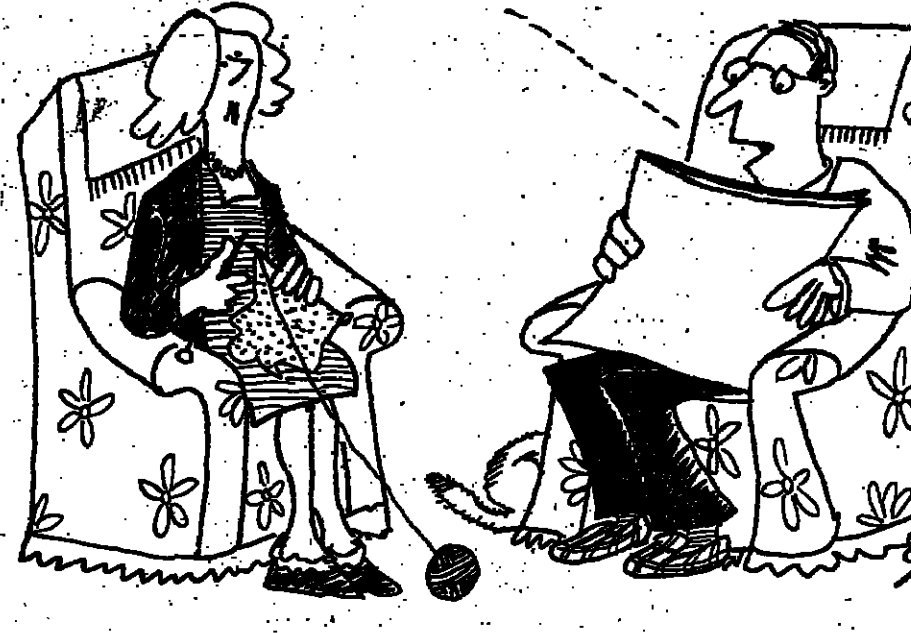
It is arguable that the advertising put out by some of these societies is less than 100 per cent honest, as the rate advertised may be impossible to achieve if you make any withdrawals at all.

Trading might like to have a look at some of these interest rate claims. In the meantime, investors should check the terms of these extra interest accounts carefully. Most have

a minimum investment of £500 to £1,000.

It is also worth bearing in mind that if two accounts offer identical returns, it pays to go for the one which pays interest most frequently — 11 per cent a year paid half yearly is worth more than 11

GOODNESS! HOW TIME FLIES... IT'S TIME TO CHANGE OUR BUILDING SOCIETY AGAIN...



Building societies paying more than the BSA recommended rate on ordinary accounts.

Society	Interest rate %	Society	Interest rate %
Argyle	10.35	New Cross	10.75-11.5*
Bolton	10.25	Paddington	10.25
Harpden	10.25	Peckham Mutual	10.75
Horne Bay	10.25	Portsmouth	10.5
London Permanent	10.5	Swiss Bank	10.25
Manchester	10.25	Teachers	10.25
Mornington	10.7	Wessex	10.75

* Depending on amount invested.

Building society best buys — extra interest accounts*

Society	1 month's notice Interest rate %	Society	3 months' notice Interest rate %
Bolton	11	Property Owners	11.05
Chatham Reliance	11	Sussex County	11
Chelsea	10.25		
Peckham Mutual	11	Society	6 months' notice Interest rate %
Town & Country	10.75		
		Citizens Regency	11.3
		City & Metropolitan	11.5
		Guardian	11.75
		Greenwich	11.5
		Holmesdale Benefit	11.75
		Lambeth	11.75
		London Permanent	11.5
		Portsmouth	11.5
		Property Owners	11.75
		Ramsbury	11.25

* Further information on interest rates and terms of building society investments is available from the Building Societies Association, 2, Bury Street, London, EC4A 3DF (Tel 01-236 0855).

a minimum investment of £500 to £1,000.

It is also worth bearing in mind that if two accounts offer identical returns, it pays to go for the one which pays interest most frequently — 11 per cent a year paid half yearly is worth more than 11

In brief

Britannia first in market

Even investment is subject to the vagaries of fashion and what is attracting attention this month is new entrants.

Fund managers Britannia have seized the opportunity offered by this trend and come up with the first unit trust investing solely in shares quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market — companies not yet big enough to have a full stock exchange quotation.

The fund will probably perform well, if for no other reason than that with their new-found freedom to invest in USM shares, other unit trusts will also be moving into this sector and forcing share prices.

These are the shares of the future — or not, as the case may be. It is certainly a fund for widows and orphans. Britannia recommends that no one invests more than 10 per cent of their portfolio in such a potentially volatile fund. The minimum investment is £1,000.

The fund will always be at least 10 per cent in cash and will also have the facility to invest in unquoted shares abroad, probably mainly in them in the United States.

Disqualified drivers

Anyone who is dependent on being mobile for a livelihood — doctors, salesmen and the like — should think seriously about insurance cover in case they are disqualified from driving.

St Christopher, the motor insurance specialists, promise cover of up to £2,000 a year for alternative transport arrangements. The annual premium is £48 for a regular mileage plan and £64 a year for anyone who comes into the high mileage category — both normally allowable as a business expense.

Respective maximum benefits are £3,000 and £2,000 a year. The policy covers disqualification through endorsement or accumulation of penalty points (under the new 1981 Transport Act provisions) and for driving convictions provided that the motorist's breathalyser reading is not more than double the legal limit.

There is also cover if a car is stolen or damaged in an accident or if the motorist is disabled through a motor accident.

Spa refresher

Leamington Spa is one of the few building societies to offer a fixed rate of return to investors — its current SpA Bond Account pays a fixed rate of 11.5 per cent, net of basic rate tax, for a one-year investment. A basic rate taxpayer would need to earn 16.4 per cent before tax to obtain an equivalent return.

Lorna Bourke

Foreign currencies

It pays to study form

Speculating in currencies seems to have become a popular pastime for investors rather than putting a bet on the second favourite in the 3.30 at Sandown.

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Opinion is split on whether the credit crunch will push United States interest rates back into the mid-20 per cent. If the recession developing in the United States cuts back demand for day-to-day money from consumers and companies then a more moderate rise from the present 14-16 per cent level could result.

"No one feels like rushing in like a hero," one banker said. Markets are very nervous and thin, with a lot of people trying to stay out of trouble. But once conviction sets in the dollar could move sharply.

Longer term investors — and, after all, 1982 is only forty trading days away — will find the pundits more united in their views.

To summarize on the chief currencies these are:

DOLLAR: The United States economy is in poor shape. Recent rises in the dollar have made American exports expensive and less money is

Capital transfer tax

A way to soften the blow

Handing over large sums to the tax man is something to be avoided if at all possible. A new and imaginative scheme from Vanbrugh, the people who brought you "loan-backs", is a neat device for avoiding the worst effects of capital transfer tax — without losing control of your original capital.

The problem with giving away assets to avoid tax is that you immediately incur a CTT liability and you lose control of both the capital and the income from that capital.

Vanbrugh's scheme towards avoiding this problem by means of a trust combined with a single premium life assurance policy.

The details of how it works are complex but the net effect is that assets can be transferred into the Trust, free of CTT. Any capital gain on these assets can then be handed on to the next generation, or other named beneficiaries, including the settlor, free of Capital transfer tax.

The main drawback of the Inheritance Trust is that it does not help those whose main asset is the family home, or other property.

The scheme could, however, be useful in certain circumstances notably where there is a fairly elderly person who has substantial free assets to shelter from CTT.

Why has not anyone thought of this before? The answer is that Vanbrugh's scheme takes advantage of legislation introduced only last April in the 1981 Finance Act.

For those of a technical turn of mind, here is how the scheme works. A trust is set up by the person with the assets to transfer (the settlor). The settlor then makes a loan to the trust of the assets to be sheltered from CTT. This can be shares, bank deposits, building society investments and the like — but not property.

These assets are sold and the money invested in a Vanbrugh single premium bond — for larger sums several bonds would be bought. If the settlor requires income, he or she can withdraw up to 5 per cent a year of the original settlement.

The capital gains and income on the single premium bond roll up without incurring any liability to income

tax and can be gifted to any of the named beneficiaries of the trust, free of CTT.

The investor retains control of the original capital but at any time the loan can be recalled — again without incurring any CTT liability.

The drawback is that with inflation it might well prove impossible to live on an income of 5 per cent out of the original capital and there are complications if the investor needs an income higher than this.

It is worth while taking avoiding action on CTT — it starts at a relatively low figure of £50,000 so you do not have to be immensely rich to suffer. Transfers between husband and wife are exempt but a single person leaving an estate of £50,000 might be alarmed to learn that £4,500 of this goes straight to the tax man as capital transfer tax.

But anyone contemplating the Vanbrugh Inheritance Trust must consult their accountant before going ahead. It is not a simple scheme and there could be unforeseen complications if the details are not properly explained to the investor.

Our BBC Moneybox selections for 1982

Winners 1979, runners up 1980, winners 1981

For the third successive year Framlington have been winners or runners-up in the BBC Moneybox unit trust managers' competition.

For 1982 we have again entered American & General Fund and International Growth Fund. We now offer lump sum investments or a monthly savings plan in either.

International Growth Fund is our full-blooded capital growth trust investing world-wide. It can switch between markets at will. At present 66% is in the USA, 15% in the UK, 17% in the Far East. Since launch in 1976 the price of units is up 351% compared with 134% for the FT All-Share Index.

On 27 October the offer price was 75.2p xd (accumulation units, 81.4p). The estimated gross yield was 1.17%. Distributions are on June 15 and Dec 15.

American & General Fund also goes for out-and-out capital growth, but 100% from North America. Since its launch in 1979 units are up 100% compared with 37% for the FT All-Share (and 19% for the equivalent US Index, the S&P Comp, adjusted for currency changes).

On 27 October the offer price was 99.8p (accumulation units, 99.8p). The estimated gross yield was 0.91%. The annual distribution is on Oct 15.

Units can be bought using the coupon (minimum £700) or by telephone on 01-628 5181 every day the Stock Exchange is open. The minimum holding is 600 units.

The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. Applications are acknowledged. Certificates are sent within 42 days by the registrars, Lloyds Bank Limited.

To: Framlington Unit Management Limited, 64 London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ

I wish to invest the sum of £ (minimum £700). (For accumulation units, tick here ☐) I enclose my cheque made payable to Framlington Unit Management Limited.

I wish to start a Savings Plan for £ per month (minimum £10). I enclose my cheque for the first contribution. (This can be a larger amount than your monthly payment.)

I am over 18. My choice of fund is FRAMLINGTON.

Surname (Mr/Ms/Miss) _____

Full Sex names _____

Address _____

Signature _____ Date _____

(Joint applicants should all sign and give details separately)

Savings Plan With the Plan, units are bought by monthly direct debit at the offer price ruling on 5th of each month. There are no special charges. For £100 a month or more we give a discount of 1%.

Net income is automatically reinvested for you, using accumulation units.

Every six months you are sent a statement of your account and a detailed report on your fund.

You can cash in your plan at any time, receiving the full accumulated bid value of your units. There are no "surrender penalties". Nor is the plan subject to capital gains tax. You yourself would be liable only if your total capital gains exceeded £3,000 in the year you cashed in your plan, whose proceeds will depend on unit values at the time.

To start your plan, fill in the application form and send it to us with your cheque. We shall send you a direct debit mandate for you to complete and return in the reply-paid envelope we provide.

You may chip in extra at the start with a cheque for more than your monthly contribution. Remember that plans over £100 a month get a 1% discount.

General Information

The trusts are authorised by the Department of Trade and constituted by trust deed. Lloyds Bank Limited is both Trustee and Registrar.

The initial charge included in the offer price is 5%. The annual charge is 1% (VAT).

Commission of 1% is paid to recognised agents, but is not paid on Savings Plans.

The managers are Framlington Unit Management Limited, 64 London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ. Telephone: 01-628 5181. Registered in England No. 895241. Member of the Unit Trust Association.



Mrs June Almeida this week

Insurance test case

Mrs June Almeida, above, is to test in court next week the validity of an insurance policy issued by Legal & General.

The policy, which was issued in connection with a group sickness scheme offered by her employer (a catering company in Colliers Wood, South London), provided for the payment of £20 a week to employees, both male and female, who were off work because of ill health.

"Aliments peculiar to the female sex" however, were excluded. Mrs Almeida was off work with "ailment peculiar to the female sex" for eight weeks last year, when she suffered an ectopic pregnancy.

While she was convalescing she contacted her local Citizens' Advice Bureau to discuss the rights and wrongs of the exclusion, and they sent her on to the Equal Opportunities Commission. The EOC is backing her in a case against the employer under the Sex Discrimination Act. It starts on Monday, and is expected to last for three days.

NS certificates

Extension terms for the 7th and 11th issue of National Savings Certificates have been announced by National Savings. Terms for a further 12 months amount to a return of just under 10 per cent tax-free for both issues. Each 7th issue certificate will be worth £3.81 at the end of the extension period and will rise to £4.19 if held for a further year. The value of each 11th issue certificate will rise from £2.63 at the end of the existing extension period to £2.90 after a further year.

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To summarize on the chief currencies these are:

Currency	Gain last 3 months %
Belgian franc	3.3
Canadian dollar	12.8
D-Mark	14.8
Dutch florin	14.0
French franc	13.0
Lira	13.7
Sterling	10.9
Swiss franc	16.1
Dollar	12.8

* Including interest.

The figures show the position from a starting point in sterling. The performance is not at fees, which are 4% per cent per year charged on a daily basis.

being made on international trade. Mr Reagan has yet to prove he is any better than Mrs Thatcher at getting government spending under control. The currency is expected to fall once interest rates look their competitive edge. Even if rates do soar over 20 per cent, they are expected to be down before next summer.

D-MARK: Apart from worries about the effect on German trade from the Russian/Polish confrontation, views on the D-Mark tend to be bullish. German goods look cheap by international standards and the economy is managed in a style that international fund managers like. Wage settlements are low, the central bank has refused to give way to industrial lobbies for lower interest rates. It all looks very prudent. But rises in the currency could be paced by improvements in the current account and continuing political stability.

YEN: The Japanese have been doing clever things to hide their excellent balance of payments. They have stockpiled imported strategic raw materials and oil to boost the import bill. Japanese exports dominate world markets in spite of the barriers. At the moment low interest rates are causing a yield-conscious money to switch abroad. But the fundamental strengths of the economy, and the attractions of high technology Japanese stocks will be remembered once American interest rates moderate.

STERLING: There are worries about a political U-turn ahead of the election, too rapid monetary growth and tough scenes with the unions.

SWISS FRANC: The Swiss have also been taking their financial medicine with Teutonic rigour, after allowing inflation to hit the roof (by Swiss standards) at 7 per cent. Monetary control is expected to strengthen the Swiss franc against most currencies next year.

Placing your money in a foreign currency account with your local high street bank is the simplest way to invest. There are also several managed currency funds run by Guinness Mahon, Britannia, Capital Assets and Vanbrugh where professionals will make the decision which currency to buy.

But if you prefer to make your own mistakes, Rothschild's runs a series of funds known as Old Court International Reserves, denominated in a variety of currencies and you can decide for yourself which currency to be in. Simco, a subsidiary of the giant Mercantile House group, also runs a dollar deposit fund where money is available at seven days' notice.

Sally White

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Loyal Lane, London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-821 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Group	Yld	Div	Actual	P/E	Rank
114	100	ABI Ridge 10% CULS	108	1	10.0	9.3				6
76	39	Airspring Group	67		4.7	7.0	106	14.5		
52	21	Armitage & Rhodes	43		4.3	10.0	3.6	8.1		
200	924	Bardon Hill	192	1	9.7	5.1	9.3	11.4		
104	88	Deborah Services	97		5.5	5.7	4.8			
126	84	Frank Fornall	116		6.4	5.5	10.5	23.2		
110	39	Fredrick Purkes	59		1.7	2.9	25.7			
110	49	George Blair	49							
102	93	IPC	96		7.3	7.6	8.8			
113	59	Jackson Group	98	+1	7.0	7.7	5.1	7.9		104
130	103	James Burrough	103		8.7	6.1	7.9	9.5		
334	244	Robert Jenkins	290	+2	31.3	10.8	4.0	10.2		
59	50	Scruttons "A"	54		5.3	9.8	8.3	7.9		
224	187	Torley Limited	187		15.1	6.1	7.2	12.4		
20	18	Twinkl Oak	18							
90	68	Twinkl Oak ULS	77	1	15.0	19.5				
56	31	Unlock Holdings	34		3.0	8.5	6.1	10.8		
103	81	Walter Alexander	84		6.4	7.6	5.5	10.2		
263	181	W. S. Yates	225	1	13.4	5.0	4.3	6.7		

EDITED BY LORNA BOURKE

FINANCIAL NEWS



Willie Robertson this week

Pope to pop stars — Willie Robertson insures them all

Mrs Thatcher may be short of fans at the moment but there are several 'Lloyds' underwriters who would be less than entertained if she were to be toppled in a Downing Street coup.

Insurance broker, Willie Robertson recently had the unusual task of insuring against this and other disasters that might befall the Prime Minister or her husband on behalf of the producers of *Anyone for Denis* the hilarious theatrical life in the Thatcher household based on Private Eye's "Dear Bill" column.

Anyone for Denis has been running to packed audiences at the Whitehall Theatre, London since early summer. The producers wanted to insure against any eventuality that might lead to the death, Mrs Thatcher's debarment, or a snap general election that would mean the play would have to be withdrawn. They went to Mr Robertson who over the last 15 years has cast himself as a profitable and amusing if at times rather hair-raising career as insurance broker extraordinary to the entertainment industry.

In his time he has been asked to insure some bizarre risks. One British pop group was about to start a tour of Yugoslavia when President Tito fell seriously ill. If Tito died the whole country would have gone into mourning, the concert tour would have been cancelled and the group would have lost money. Mr Robertson fixed the cover, the group completed its tour and Tito died just a few days after they had finished.

In 1968 Mr Robertson was working at Lloyds when two Old Harrovian friends of his who managed King Crimson, one of the groups which emerged in the late sixties, found they could not find anyone to insure the group's instruments. "Insurers were suspicious of the music business. Lloyds thought it was difficult. Drink and drugs were a very grey area too. The musicians did not know about insurance but of course

it was at this time they began to use all sorts of complicated and expensive gear."

Since then Mr Robertson has handled the insurance needs of most big British pop groups and their promoters, placing around £2m of premiums on the London market each year.

His career has had its nerve-racking moments. A few years ago he became involved in a promotion for the Pink Floyd which featured a large inflatable pink pig harnessed to a battleship power station. He was insuring the pig. However the balloon animal slipped its moorings and took off for the Kent coast oblivious of passing aircraft. "When you think of it it could have been a huge disaster," he says. It landed safely in the country — in a pig farm.

Pink Floyd concerts now feature the marginally more insurable gimmick of a 50 foot model aircraft which pushes towards the audience at the start of the show at 40 miles an hour.

Concert tours, even those without such dramatic curtain-raisers, are a big insurance proposition. Mr Robertson manages cover for touring performers and promoters on everything from their instruments to non-performance fees if for any reason beyond their control the show or the star is unable to go on.

He arranged the multi-million dollar package that covers the Rolling Stones' present 56-date marathon tour of the United States. "Touch wood," he says, "everything is going all right although the stage was blown away at their opening concert in Buffalo."

Perhaps his most unusual brief was to arrange non-appearance insurance for Pope John Paul II's visit to the United Kingdom next May. "In insurance terms, it is really just the same as a rock 'n' roll concert. He is scheduled to give six open-air masses in various parts of the country. If he is unable to come the organizers stand to

lose a great deal of money. It is like the royal wedding. There will be lots of things that will be lost if the Pope does not come. The organizers will be pretty near worthless if the event does not take place."

Mr Robertson has arranged the cover for the tour organizers, Mark McCormack's International Management Group. The insurance was taken out after the attempt on the Pope's life but before his latest operation. The fact that there are uncertainties about whether the Pope can now manage the entire schedule underlines the risks of insuring leading personalities and performers.

"We have seen some serious losses this year," says Mr Robertson. Richard Burton collapsed on stage during the revival of Camelot and had to withdraw from the show because of serious illness. The producers had recourse to their insurance policy which covered the loss of expected box office takings following Burton's departure. But despite some setbacks Mr Robertson still holds that the music and entertainment industry, however unstable or eccentric the image, is no worse a risk than anything else. "Most of my clients are professionals who have been around for a long time. They know how much is at stake. Most musicians for instance are self-made men who look after their instruments and equipment."

And despite the fact that the music industry is so strong in the United States, it is the London market that most easily entertains the insurance business. "The American market blows hot and cold on this sort of business. Lloyds just soldiers on somehow. It will accept risks that other markets will not. I believe there is a price for everything however bizarre."

Margaret Drummond

Two more apply for USM quotes

By Dewi Johnston

Two more companies, one an electronics equipment manufacturer, the other a sheet metal fabricator, are the latest to apply for quotation on the Unlisted Securities Market.

Stockbrokers Hoare, Govett are placing 131m ordinary shares of 10p at 90p per share on behalf of the Feedback Group, an East-Sussex company which manufactures electronic, electrical and microprocessor-based equipment.

Sheet metal fabricators VW is also about to have 1.16m of its ordinary shares placed by its merchant bank, Gray Dawes, again through brokers Hoare, Govett.

The VW shares, placing is made up of 47,428 ordinary shares which are being sold by existing shareholders and the remainder from a new issue. At a placing price of 62p per share, Gray Dawes says the market capitalization of the company amounts to £298m and £341m after taking into account the shares to be issued.

The bankers say VW is coming to the market on a multiple of 4.96 times the current pre-tax profits with an indicated annual gross dividend yield of 8.84 per cent. The chairman of the company, Mr Roy Stephens, and his co-directors will retain a direct interest of 60.2 per cent of the share capital.

In the case of the Feedback Group, a proportion of the shares being placed will be available to the public through the market and dealings are expected to begin on November 5.

Feedback's bankers, Arbuthnot Latham, say the company has recorded unaudited pre-tax profits for the six months ended September 30 that are 20 per cent greater than the corresponding period last year at £381,000.

The directors' forecast is that pre-tax profits for the year will be a maximum of £375,000.

Higher sales fail to lift Hepworth

J. Hepworth rang up much more money at the tills last year, but still ended up with profits down on the previous 12 months.

Turnover was up by more than £13.7m at almost £75.7m, but pre-tax profits fell from £5.7m to a shade over £4m.

Mr Jeffrey Rowley, managing director, explained: "Turnover benefited from a number of acquisitions, but we are still having difficulties on the High Street. In menswear, people are buying casual garments rather than £80 to £100 suits."

On the stock market Hepworth shares eased 2p to 90p, although interest in the stock remains keen, reflecting the substantial stake taken in the company by British Land, which was increased earlier this week. The results show that Hepworth, whose chairman is Mr



Mr Robert Chadwick, chairman of J. Hepworth

Robert Chadwick, had written off just over £400,000 after the closure of its Sunderland factory and possible further branch closures. Profits on property

sales during the year were £548,000.

Hepworth's sales have been bolstered by the acquisition of the Turner shoe shop chain and the Kendall's women's wear business. But profits remain elusive while the recession remains its grip.

It does not suppose the prices of our menswear has risen more than 2 or 3 per cent in the last year, but customers still remain very price conscious," Mr Rowley said. "However, we are experiencing some small signs of a pick-up, although very much depends on what happens at Christmas."

In the meantime, Hepworth will continue its policy of pruning uneconomic branches. It disposed of 20 stores last year, leaving a total of 600 outlets.

Shareholders collect a final dividend of 3.8p a share gross making a total of 5.4p, the same as last time.

Howard & Wyndham cuts loss by £600,000

By Our Financial Staff

The slimmed down Howard & Wyndham group—consisting of W. H. Allen, the publishers, and Ciro the jewellers—has reduced its losses in the first half from £969,000 to £377,000.

Shareholders, however, once again failed to collect a dividend, while on the stock market the shares remained unchanged at 4p.

Turnover fell from £5.2m to £4.5m. Interest charges during the trading spell were reduced from £236,000 to £187,000. The loss per share was 6p compared with 14.5p before.

The publishing business has undergone a considerable change with the disposal of the Made Simple educational book stocks and the Brown Watson children's book division, leaving sales of the publishing side well down.

However, the board points out that sales of the continuing activities of W. H. Allen, and the Ciro jewellery side, are higher this year than in the same period in 1980.

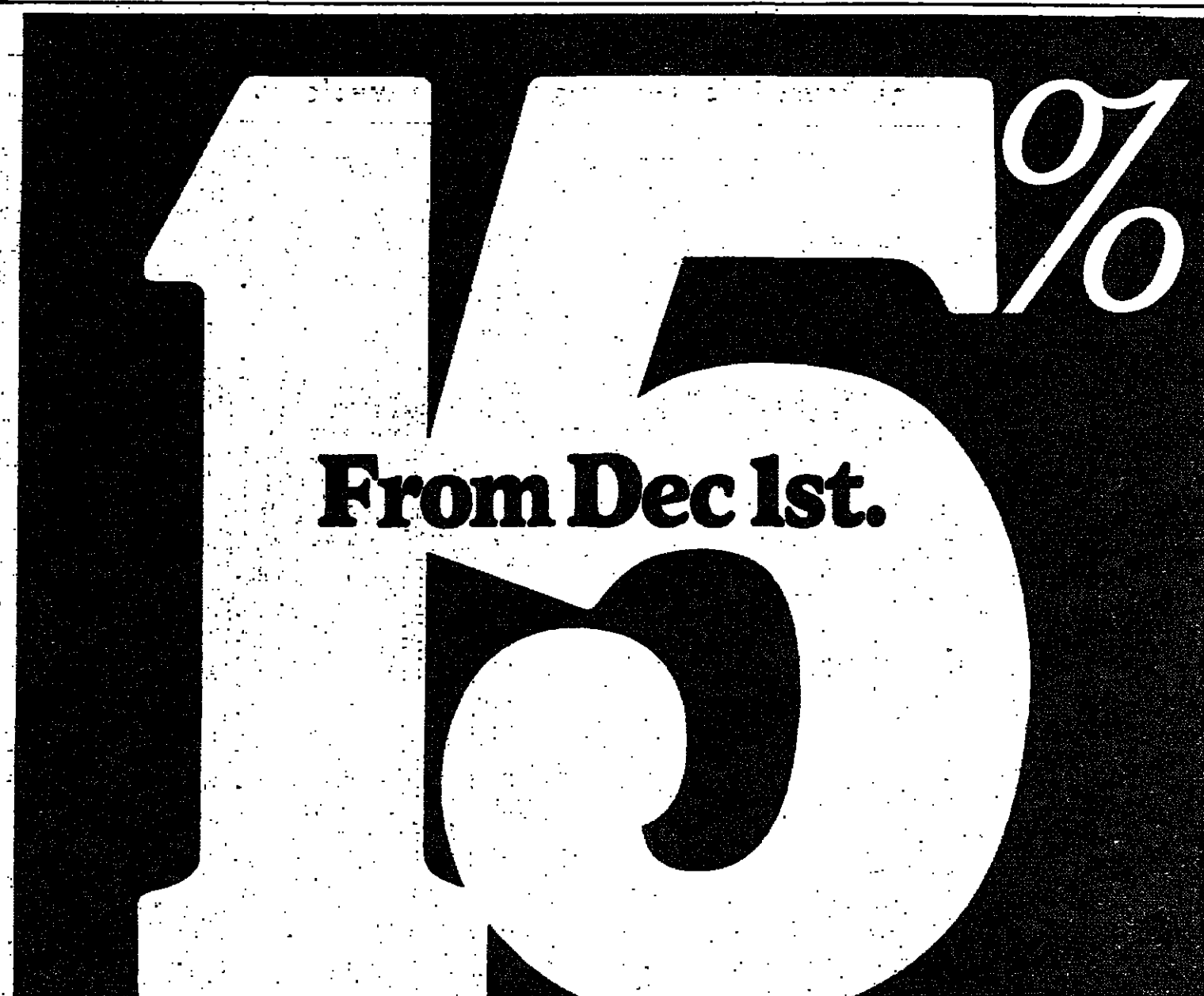
The jewellery business, however, remains subject to seasonal trading trends so that losses in the first half usually give way to a profitable second half. The indications are that this pattern should be repeated in the second six months.

For the 18 months to December 31, net losses were £17.7m.

Airline group's losses increase

Davies & Newman, the Dan-Air airline and shipbroking group, yesterday reported that the six months results showed a pre-tax deficit of £1.99m compared with a loss of £716,000 at the same stage last year.

The first half is always a loss-making one for the group because of the seasonal nature of Dan-Air's charter business. "The airline is experiencing all the adverse factors common to the industry at the present time," Mr Frederick Newman, chairman, said.



The big, simple way to save with a National Savings Bank Investment Account.

On December 1st, the interest rate for all National Savings Bank Investment Account holders goes up to 15% p.a., and matches the highest rate we have ever paid. To benefit from the new rate as soon as it is introduced, you must invest by November 30th.

An NSB Investment Account gives you big interest rates — paid in full. Start right now. It's quick and simple.

Simple to start

Just go to your post office, fill in a simple form and make your deposit. Start with as little as £1 — cash or cheque. Cheques made payable to you are also acceptable as a deposit.

Every pound you invest earns interest from the first of the month following the deposit, and for every full calendar month it remains invested. And you can withdraw it at one month's notice.

The maximum you can invest is £200,000.

Is the interest paid in full?

Yes. Some investments pay interest "tax paid," with income tax already deducted. Even if you are not liable to pay tax, it's not always possible to get it back. Our interest, though taxable, is paid in full.

This is a significant benefit to private investors who don't pay tax — children as well as adults — and tax-exempt organisations.

Now open to commercial investors

Registered companies and other corporate bodies are also eligible to open an Investment Account. Applications should be made direct to the National Savings Bank, SOC/COM Glasgow G58 1SB. No money should be sent at this stage.

National Savings
Full details are available in a leaflet you'll find at any post office.

Airing policyholders' grievances

Anyone with a complaint against a life assurance company will find it hard to get an independent investigation. The only course of action is to complain to the company concerned or perhaps take expensive legal action.

But the Life Offices Association is now considering the possibility of setting up a separate independent complaints system and has instructed a working party to look at the handling of complaints.

Consumers with grievances about general insurance — household, motor, travel and the like — can air them before an independent Insurance Ombudsman, James Haswell, but he is not able to deal with complaints against all insurers.

Mr Haswell's bureau is open to all insurance groups.

New funds

Anyone fortunate, or unfortunate, enough to be paying income tax at 50 per cent or

more should take a look at the two new funds, Electra and Basilidon, which take advantage for the new tax relief allowable for money put up for venture capital enterprises. The Electra offer closes on November 4 so there is not much time to lose. Since the money is effectively locked up for five years, this should be money you can manage without. Tax relief at your highest rate is available on up to £10,000 invested in such schemes each year.

Finding where to get the best return on your savings often can be a basic terms and conditions. Further market best buys will highlight what is available in the savings market, with details are obtainable from the relevant organizations.

Your money market best buys

Banks
Current account — no interest paid. Deposit accounts — Lloyds, 13.5 per cent; Nat West, Midland & Barclays, 14 per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. Fixed-term deposits — 1 month, 14 per cent; 3 months, 14 per cent; 6 months, 15 per cent; 12 months, 15 per cent; For sums of £10,000 or more rate fixed for the term.
Money Funds
Simco 7-day fund, 15.44 per cent; UDT Average Return Fund, 16.33 per cent; Tyndall 7-day fund, 15.5 per cent; Simco dollar fund, 13.5 per cent; interest paid without deduction of tax. Further details from Simco (01-225 0223), Tyndall (01-0272 3224), UDT (scheme now closed to new investment).

National Savings Bank
Ordinary accounts — interest 5 p.c., first £70 of interest tax-free. Investment Accounts — 14.5 p.c. interest paid without deduction of tax, one month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £200,000.
*15 p.c. from December 1.
National Savings Certificates — 23rd Issue
Returns totally free of all taxes, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five year term of 10.5 p.c. maximum investment £5,000, on sale from November 9.

National Savings Index-Linked Certificates
Maximum investment, £5,000, return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail prices index, 4 p.c. bonus if held full five years to maturity. Cash value of £100 certificates purchased in November 1976, £191.43 including 4 p.c. bonus.

Building Societies
Ordinary share accounts — 9.75 p.c. Term shares — 1 to 5 years, between 0.5 p.c. and 2 p.c. over the BSA recommended ordinary share rate depending on the term. Regular savings schemes — 1.25 p.c. over BSA recommended ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax, not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.
Foreign Currency Deposits
Interest paid without deduction of tax.

	Call	7-days notice
US dollar	11% p.c.	11% p.c.
Yen	2% p.c.	3 p.c.
D. Mark	7% p.c.	7% p.c.
French Franc	11% p.c.	11% p.c.

*Rates quoted by Midland Bank — other banks may differ.

Local Authority Yearling Bonds
12-month fixed rate investments, interest 16% p.c. paid net of basic rate tax (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Local Authority Town Hall Bonds
Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). Best offer: 1-3 years, Knowsley, 14% per cent. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance Loans Bureau (01-328 7855, after 3 pm). See also on Prestel no 24908.

Finance for Industry
Fixed-term, fixed-rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3-4 years, 13% p.c.; 5-6 years, 13% p.c.; 7 years, 13% p.c.; 8-9 years, 14 p.c.; 10 years, 14 p.c. Further information from FFI, 91 Wandsworth Road, London SE1 (01-928 7822).

Finance House Deposits (UDT)
Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deduction of tax. For sums of £10,000 or more: 1 month, 15% p.c.; 3 months, 15% p.c.; 6 months, 15% p.c.; 12 months, 15% p.c.

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Oct. 26; Dealings End, Nov. 6. \$ Contango Day, Nov. 9. Settlement Day, Nov. 16
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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Cricket

Tour of India draws back from the brink

By John Woodcock

So England's tour of India and Sri Lanka is to go ahead. The good news was announced yesterday after a display of brinkmanship by Mrs Gandhi which had threatened to bring world cricket grinding to a halt.

Krishna Menon, the Indian cricket administrator, said the tour would be cancelled if the Indian cricket team were not to play in the forthcoming World Cup in Bombay.

Had the tour been cancelled it would have been a bad day for sport throughout the world. It could have snowballed into something which would have made the ending of apartheid on the playing fields of South Africa not more but less likely.

The Indian Government extracted itself from a difficult position by latching on to a letter written in August by the Test and County Cricket Board, to all first-class cricketers, warning them to think twice, if they were not to jeopardize their prospects of playing for England, before accepting an invitation to tour South Africa with a team of Test calibre.

Advantage was taken, too, of the condemnation of apartheid expressed by Cook and Boycott.

Because of an announcement a fortnight ago that the tour could go ahead if the two, who are on the United Nations blacklist, were withdrawn from the England party, the Indian Government, acting in their role as leaders of the Third World, got themselves out to a limbo from which there was no easy return.

They did it, I think, without realizing that England could neither ask nor expect Cook

and Boycott to step down; nor perhaps did they fully appreciate the likely consequences of the tour being cancelled, one of which would have been the polarization of white and non-white into separate camps.

To be consistent, Mrs Gandhi would have had to stop the Indian cricket team coming to England next summer, as they are due to do, and to insist that no one playing in the forthcoming World Cup in Bombay should have had links with South Africa, which almost certainly would have put a stop to that, too.

In all likelihood, Sri Lanka would have followed India's lead and asked England not to go there in February.

Had they thought, we have pulled back from the brink—with everyone a little wiser and neither side irretrievably committed. Ironically, the letter which served as a lifeline was intended not to assert any moral pressure upon England's players so far as their attitudes to South Africa are concerned, but simply as a legal safeguard with a privately sponsored tour being planned.

The ICCB were afraid that they might find themselves in the position of having to ask certain players not to go on if they wanted to be in the team for India, which, had already been agreed, could have been interpreted as an inducement to breach them.

All is well for the moment and because of the dignity and good sense which he has shown, Mr. Cook's position has been enhanced. Such will be the delight of his players that there is no question of their being put at a



Boycott and Cook can pack their bags for Bombay.

disadvantage by what has happened.

A cricket tour of India is a great and exciting experience. The relief that it is on will be shared just as heartily by the Indian public.

Press Association reports: Although ICCB officials were delighted that the tour was on, they suggested that the situation could recur. George Mann, chairman of the board, said at Lord's last night: "Politeness of the cricket world has been prevented for the moment. That does not mean to say that other governments would necessarily follow the policy of India's Government which has allowed us to start our tour next Thursday."

"If we had yielded to the demands that were put on us a fortnight ago, to omit Geoff Cook and Geoff Boycott, we would have been at the head of a slippery slope. All cricket boards know where we stand, and more governments are realizing that we will not alter our principles of selecting our side on merit. South Africa found that out 13 years ago."

Guyana discovered it last winter, and now India's Government know where we stand."

Mr. Mann added: "We have also made clear the positions of Boycott and Cook which are as follows:

1. Boycott went to South Africa last winter on holiday and did a little coaching.

2. Cook took a winter job coaching youngsters of all ages and played for Eastern Province.

3. Both players have personally expressed themselves opposed to the principle and system of apartheid."

He said that the United Nations blacklist was not men's business, but that he was with India. All we asked Cook to do was to say that he agreed with Boycott's published views that he disapproved of apartheid."

It was also revealed that the board had discussed Derbyshire's secretary, Donald Carr, said that if a replacement were needed on this tour, he could come straight from South Africa, where many English cricketers spend the winter.

The England captain, Keith Fletcher, said: "The news comes as a great relief and naturally I am delighted. I only returned home last night from a short holiday in Scotland and today's events complete a happy week. I must confess that the suspense of the last couple of weeks was beginning to get me down."

"Sport of any kind can only help bring nations closer together and I am certain even closer ties will be forged this winter." He added: "I am convinced we shall be very warmly welcomed when we arrive next week."

More than likely the BBC will be there on Tuesday to give us the news that the tour is on. In world terms can only be regarded as cannon fodder for Larry Holmes, whereas the tour in India could give a good account of himself against Hagler must remain there tomorrow.

That for us compounds an editorial gaffe into a monstrous misuse of licence. And if the matter is not thrashed out, the BBC will be in a sorry state of affairs. The board of the British Broadcasting Corporation could land on the table of the Ombudsman.

Shane Warne, the Australian fast bowler, has been named as the first choice to replace the injured Ian Botham in the England team for the tour of India.

The board has been in touch with Sri Lanka and there was no question of that section of the tour being in jeopardy. The board's secretary, Donald Carr, said that if a replacement were needed on this tour, he could come straight from South Africa, where many English cricketers spend the winter.

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Boxing

Board seek better TV deal from BBC

By Srikanth Sen

The British Boxing Board of Control are in talks with the BBC about a better television deal for the sport.

The board, which is the governing body for boxing in Britain, is currently negotiating with the BBC over a new contract. The current deal is due to expire next year.

The board is seeking a more favourable deal, particularly in terms of the number of fights that can be shown on television. The BBC has been reluctant to show more than a limited number of fights per year.

The board is also seeking a more regular schedule of fights. At present, the BBC only shows a few fights at a time, rather than a continuous programme.

The board is also seeking a more favourable financial deal. The current deal is not particularly lucrative for the board, and they are seeking a more substantial increase.

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Football

Clough sends Wallace to a neutral corner

By Stuart Jones

Football Correspondent

Brian Clough is to be applauded for his decision to let Steve Wallace, who has been charged with the murder of a woman, play for his team, Lincoln City, in a friendly match against a neutral team.

Clough's decision has been widely criticized, but he has defended his decision, saying that Wallace is a professional player and that he has no control over the situation.

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Tennis

McEnroe is fined for abusing official

By John McEnroe

John McEnroe has been fined \$750 for abusing an official during the 1981 Wimbledon tournament.

The fine was imposed by the Wimbledon authorities after McEnroe was caught using abusive language towards a line judge during his match against Jimmy Connors.

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Edited by Peter Davalle

ITV/LONDON

11.00 Light
11.15 Race

THE NEW ZEALAND RUGBY UNION
OF THE SOUTH ISLAND

Radio 1

A King in N
ambaccini. †
00 Rock On

World Service



SCOTLAND'S
NUMBER ONE
QUALITY
SCOTCH WHISKY

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